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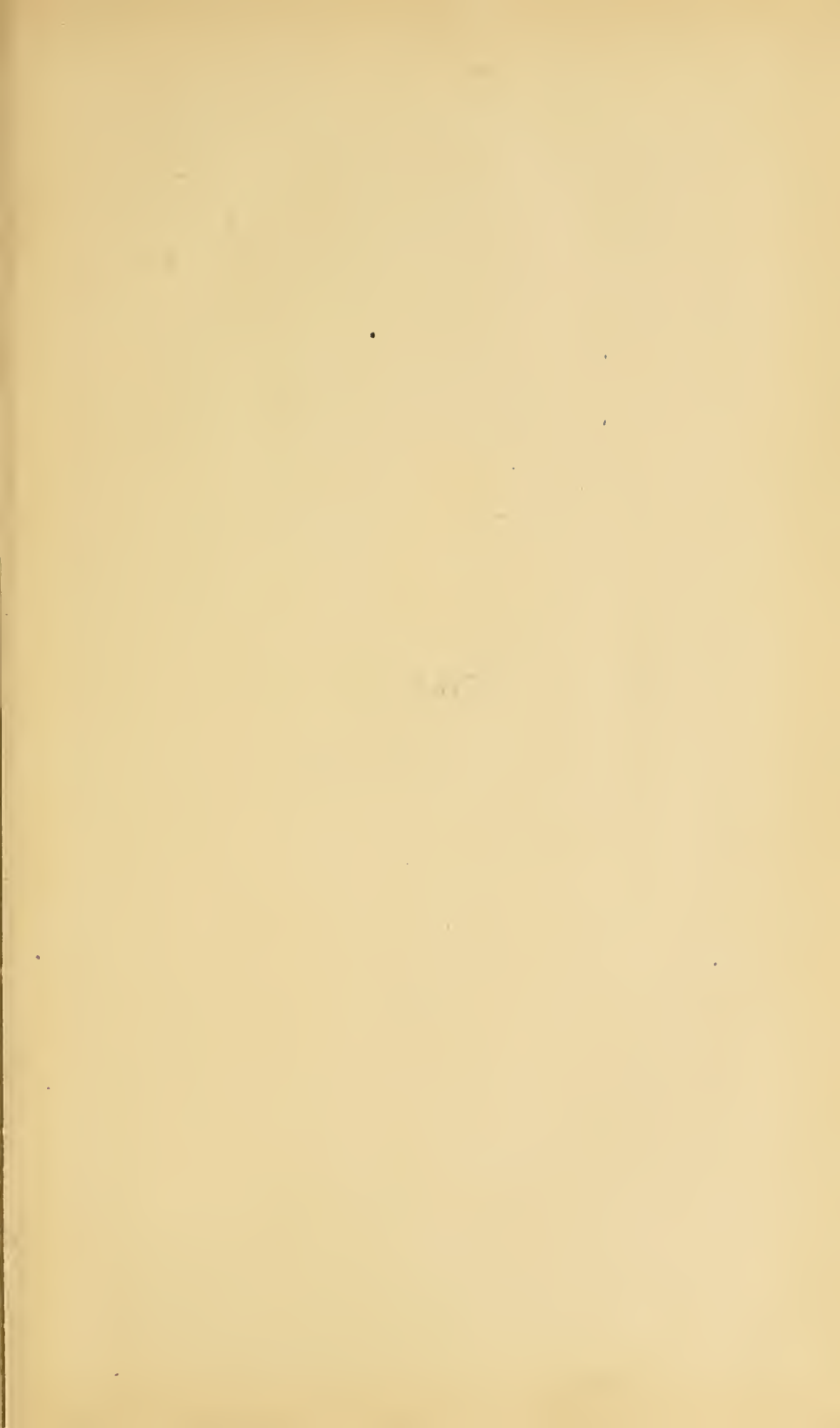
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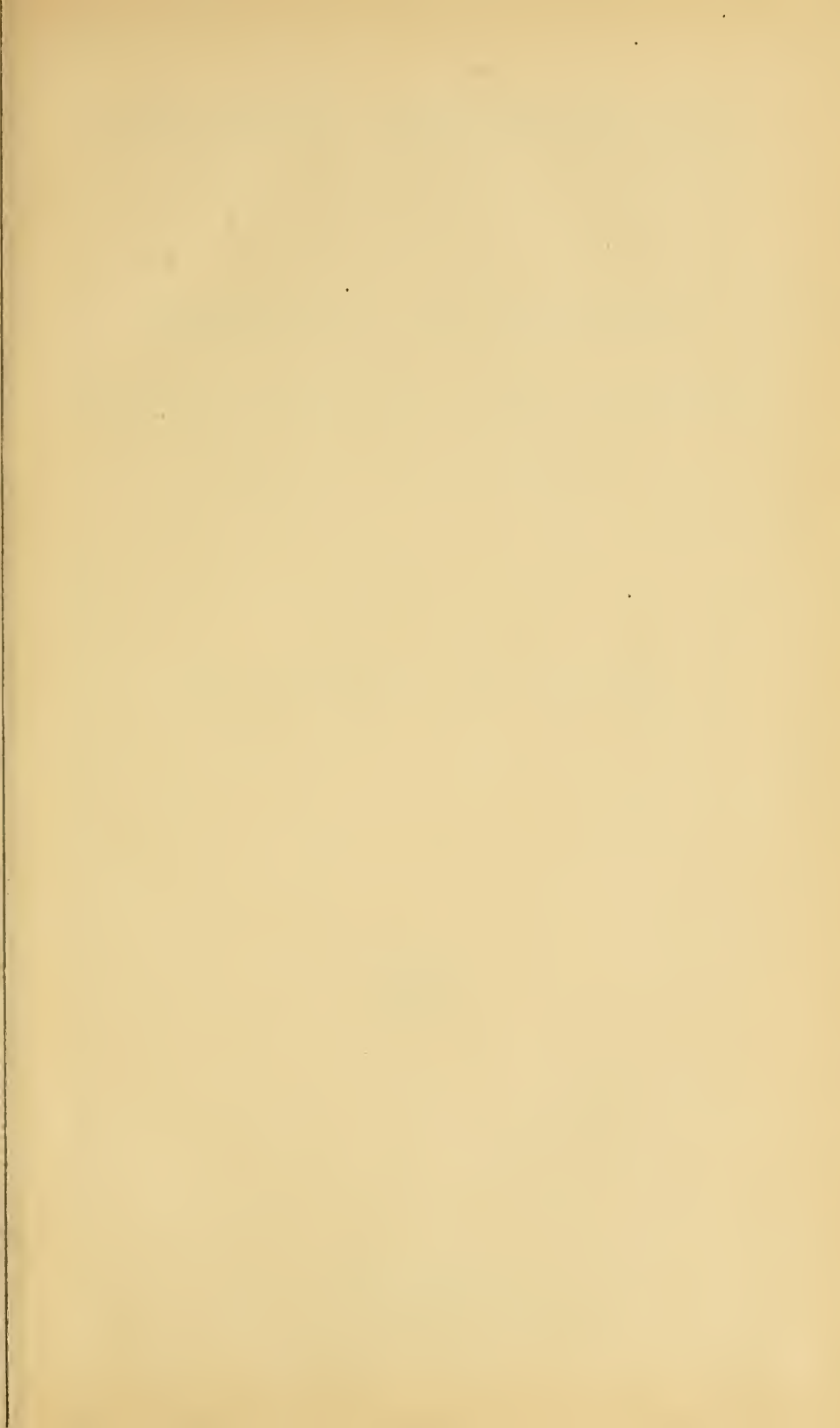


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# GRANT MEMORIAL

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## HEARINGS AND REPORT COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY

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60TH CONGRESS, 1ST SESSION



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MEMORIAL TO GENERAL GRANT.

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COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY.  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.  
*Washington, D. C., Monday, January 13, 1908.*

The committee met at 10.30 o'clock a. m., Hon. Samuel W. McCall in the chair.

Present, Representatives McCall (chairman), Conner, Hamilton, Howard, and Thomas, of the committee.

Present also, Hon. William H. Taft, Secretary of War; Representative Smith, of Iowa; Representative Sherley, of Kentucky; Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, Col. Charles S. Bromwell, Frederick Law Olmsted, esq., Henry Hicks, esq., and others.

The committee thereupon proceeded to the consideration of the bill (H. R. 10502) "to amend the provision of the act entitled 'An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1907, and for other purposes,' approved June 30, 1906, making an appropriation for continuing the work for the erection of the memorial to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant," and the resolution (H. J. Res. 77) "relative to the location of the Grant memorial."

The clerk called the roll and, by request of the chairman, read aloud the bill H. R. 10502.

The CHAIRMAN. Then I also introduced a joint resolution practically suspending the operation of the law until the question raised by Mr. Sherley's bill could be considered and investigated.

**STATEMENT OF HON. SWAGAR SHERLEY, REPRESENTATIVE  
FROM KENTUCKY.**

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Sherley, have you anything to say to the committee?

Mr. SHERLEY. Mr. Chairman, I do not know that I have anything specially to say. The bill speaks for itself. The only part in it about which I wish to speak is the proviso that in the location of the Grant monument in the Botanic Garden no historic trees shall be either removed or in anywise disturbed.

As known to the committee, the chief controversy in regard to the erection of this monument has turned upon the site selected by the commission. I know it is not my desire, and I believe it is not the desire of anyone else, to in anywise delay the erection of this proper memorial to General Grant. But we believe that it is possible in the city of Washington to find a suitable site without sacrificing the trees that are in themselves monuments to historic events in the country, and that even if the present site of the Botanic Garden is continued, it does not necessarily follow that it will have to be on such ground in the Botanic Garden as will destroy not only the Crittenden peace tree and the Beck tree, but quite a number of other trees of historic moment.

For my part I always look with regret on the destruction of any tree. I think that there is nothing more worthy of preservation

than a tree, and to destroy a historic one, unless there be absolute need for it, is, in my judgment, unjustifiable.

It has been suggested that these trees could and would be moved; and there seems to be a conflict of testimony as to whether that can be done. I understand that Mr. Smith, of Iowa, is of the opinion that the trees that were moved in the Capitol grounds some years ago lived. I have the statement from Mr. Smith, of the Botanic Garden, that, with the exception of one or two of those trees, they all died. I know of my own knowledge that some years ago in the city of Louisville, my father at that time being president of the park commission, an attempt was made to move quite a number of large trees, and that in nearly all cases the attempt was not successful; and that was particularly true in regard to trees of hard wood. And I am satisfied that in the case of a tree of the size of the Crittenden oak an attempt to move it is simply another means of destroying it.

Mr. HAMILTON. What is the size of this tree, Mr. Sherley?

Mr. SHERLEY. This tree at its base, I should say, is 2 feet through. Two feet above the ground it is probably a foot and three-quarters through; and while it is not an unusually large tree above, the base of that tree is of the size that I indicate. I have not measured it, but I have examined it very carefully, and that is my opinion.

Mr. HAMILTON. And the other tree you speak of?

Mr. SHERLEY. The Beck tree is a very much smaller tree. It is an elm, a Kentucky elm, and is a tree that I should say is not quite a foot through.

The CHAIRMAN. The Crittenden oak was planted in 1861 or 1862, was it?

Mr. SHERLEY. I do not remember the date, and I am not quite as familiar with the facts as I should be. It was planted by Mr. Crittenden, who was then a Senator from Kentucky, to commemorate an effort made for peace between the sections just prior to the outbreak of the civil war.

The CHAIRMAN. I assumed that it was about the time he introduced the "Crittenden Resolutions."

Mr. SHERLEY. I think it was after the introduction of those resolutions; but it related to them and to an offer of compromise that was made by certain northern Members of Congress to certain southern Members looking to the withdrawing of some rather inflammatory resolutions offered by these southern Members and the adoption of a plan that should avert the civil war.

Mr. CONNER. Is there any record of the year of the planting?

Mr. SHERLEY. I can, if the committee desires, get a detailed statement of that.

The CHAIRMAN. I think perhaps Mr. Smith can tell us that.

Mr. SHERLEY. I should not like to speak loosely from memory on that point at this time. I had expected that Mr. Smith would be here. He was a party to the planting of the tree, and can give the details of it, and I know he will be very glad to appear before the committee.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Chairman, has any gentleman who intends to appear before the committee a chart of the Botanic Garden, showing the proposed location of the monument?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Colonel Bromwell has all that sort of matter here, and I suppose, if you will pardon me, Mr. Sherley—

Mr. SHERLEY. Certainly.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And you, Mr. Chairman—I had supposed that some one interested in the bills would have Doctor Smith here.

The CHAIRMAN. I notified Mr. Smith to be here this morning, or rather invited him to be here; and he said he would be glad to come.

Mr. SHERLEY. I saw Mr. Smith Friday night, I think.

Mr. THOMAS. Are there any other trees that would be interfered with by the proposed location except the Crittenden oak and the Beck tree?

Mr. SHERLEY. There are quite a number of other trees that will be interfered with, in my judgment, besides the Crittenden and the Beck trees.

Mr. THOMAS. You do not know what they are?

Mr. SHERLEY. There is a tree planted by—

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Boss Shepherd?

Mr. SHERLEY. No; the Englishman.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I never heard of any but the three myself.

Mr. SHERLEY. Well, there is another tree. The chairman can answer that question. There is a tree along the site of this proposed monument.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not remember any other tree that comes very near the Howard tree.

Mr. SHERLEY. The Howard tree was what I was trying to recall.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Would that be removed?

Mr. SHERLEY. No; but the effect would be, I think, to seriously imperil the Howard tree. It is right on the line.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Well, General Howard fully approves of that much of the danger to the Howard tree.

Mr. SHERLEY. I do not know about that.

The CHAIRMAN. Colonel Bromwell says there are nine trees in all.

Colonel BROMWELL. But all except three of those are small, unimportant trees. This [producing map] represents the outline of the site. The Howard tree is very close to the foundation. It is not absolutely touched, but is within about 18 inches of the foundation. The Crittenden tree is here, and the Beck tree here [indicating].

(Colonel Bromwell thereupon explained to the committee the map produced by him, and the location of the Grant monument.)

Mr. SHERLEY. Mr. Chairman, I do not know that I desire to add anything at present. I should have been prepared to go more into detail, except that I expected that Mr. Smith, who had a personal knowledge of the matter, would be here; and I am sure he will be; but if he does not come I shall be glad to supply the committee with the detailed facts in connection with the planting of these trees.

I am very much obliged to the committee.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. WALTER I. SMITH, REPRESENTATIVE FROM IOWA.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I do not claim, Mr. Chairman, to know a great deal about the details of this matter, but I have tried to advise myself as to who did know something about it; and I shall be glad to assist the committee so far as I can by way of suggestion.

We have here to-day Colonel Bromwell, in charge of public buildings and grounds and executive officer of the Grant Commission. Two members of that commission are present, and we also have here Mr. Hicks, of New York, probably the most experienced man in the United States in the moving of large trees. We want, in whatever time the committee may see fit to hear us, to have all these parties appear before the committee. But I am sorry that we have had to go ahead without any showing on the other side. One of our contentions is that there are no trees down there that are historic trees in any proper sense; and of course we should have been glad to have heard in what degree they were claimed to be historic trees before we entered upon a hearing in opposition to these bills; but I think perhaps a general statement by General Dodge will enlighten the committee as to the history of this matter.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee would like to be informed more particularly, Judge Smith, with regard to the exact location of the memorial and just what trees it is necessary to interfere with; also anything else that the commission may see fit to suggest.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I think Colonel Bromwell can give you more information upon such details than anyone else.

The CHAIRMAN. It is rather fundamental for us to understand, first, the exact location.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I do not know that this is an appropriate time, Mr. Chairman, but I do wish to suggest to the committee that at some time before concluding its deliberations it go to the storehouse in which the model of this memorial is exhibited.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you mean at the Library?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. No; it is not at the Library. It is down at the storehouse of Colonel Bromwell.

The CHAIRMAN. I understood there was a model at the Library of the Burnham plan.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. No; I mean a model of this memorial. In the first place, I want to get before the committee an idea of the gigantic character of this memorial.

Mr. CONNER. Where do you say it can be found?

Colonel BROMWELL. At Thirteenth and C SW.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. At Thirteenth and C SW., at the storehouse of Colonel Bromwell.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Smith, during your remarks will you kindly state who constitute this commission, when it was appointed, and in a general way what its duties are?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. The commission was composed, under the law providing for this memorial, of the president of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, who is and has for many years been Gen. G. M. Dodge, of the Secretary of War, and the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Library. That has been Senator Wetmore, and the place is temporarily vacant, as I understand it. But that is the membership of the commission. Of course when this commission was created that made Mr. Secretary Root a member of it. He has subsequently been succeeded in the War Department by Mr. Secretary Taft.

Mr. HAMILTON. When did they designate this location?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. In 1903.



Mr. HAMILTON. What has been done in reference to this monument?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I think that can perhaps be more fully stated by others; but in 1901 this commission was created by a special act of Congress, and authorized to locate the memorial in any unoccupied public ground in the city of Washington aside from the Capitol and Library sites. They first thought of locating it in the circle back of the White House, or on the grounds in the rear of the State, War, and Navy building, and called for designs adapted to those two locations. The designs, when presented, were carefully examined; and finally, at the end of two years, in 1903, a design having been accepted which was not adapted to the ground back of the State, War, and Navy building, but only to the circle back of the White House, and protests having been made against locating it in that circle, the commission finally unanimously voted to locate it in the Botanic Garden at the present site. That necessitated changes of the design and changes of the contract; and that was all done. Then, when they were ready to erect this memorial (and it is a memorial as distinguished from a statue), some question was raised as to whether the Botanic Garden was a part of the Capitol grounds or not. I do not think, now, that they are part of the Capitol grounds, and the commission do not think now that they are a part of the Capitol grounds within the meaning of the original act. That is, we claim that from 1901 this commission had the right to locate this memorial in the Botanic Garden. But some question having been raised upon that subject, the commission (General Dodge, Mr. Secretary Taft, and Senator Wetmore) addressed a letter in June, 1906, to the Appropriations Committee of the Senate, or to the chairman of it, requesting that in connection with the appropriation to carry on the work it be expressly declared that they had a right to put it in the Botanic Garden between First and Second streets. That amendment was adopted in the Senate, reported out of the Senate committee, adopted in the Senate, came to the House, and was agreed to in conference.

Mr. HAMILTON. So that the place is fixed in the Botanic Garden by law?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Is fixed in the Botanic Garden by law.

Mr. CONNER. But the particular spot?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. No; I will say not the identical spot.

Mr. CONNER. But between First and Second streets?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Between First and Second streets. And I will say that at the time this law passed Congress the site, identical with where they now expect to erect it, was actually staked out upon the grounds.

Mr. HAMILTON. Was there any debate upon the bill which designated the site?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. No; not at all—not in the sundry civil bill. We do not claim that changed the law at all. We claim that under the original existing law they had an absolute right to put it in the Botanic Garden.

Mr. SHERLEY. Mr. Smith, may I ask a question right there?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Certainly.

Mr. SHERLEY. What do you consider to be the meaning of the words "unoccupied portion of the Botanic Garden?"

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I will cheerfully answer that. That language has been interpreted in every law of this character ever passed from the foundation of the Government to refer only to buildings. In practically every instance this language has been uniformly used.

Mr. SHERLEY. May I ask you another question?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I want to finish that statement. This language has been generally used in bills authorizing the location of monuments and memorials; and trees and things of that kind have never been treated as occupying the ground within the meaning of those laws, but they have always been cut down wherever necessary to establish the memorial or monument or building.

Mr. SHERLEY. What would properly occupy ground in the Botanic Garden?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I will cheerfully answer that. This Botanic Garden, I think all will agree, is not a beautiful affair. The fence around it is unsightly. If we want a botanical garden, the existing area allotted to it is wholly inadequate, and has long been so recognized by Congress. As early as March 3, 1899, nearly nine years ago, an act relative to the control of wharf property and certain public spaces in the District of Columbia was passed by Congress and approved by the President. The second section of that act was as follows:

That on or before January 1, 1903, the fence around the Botanic Garden shall be removed: *Provided*, That at the first session of the Fifty-sixth Congress the Joint Committee on the Library is directed to report a bill embodying a plan for removing the Botanical Gardens to another location.

Now, it is not made a proviso that if they do report this bill it shall be removed; but the peremptory order was made by Congress as early as 1899 that before January 1, 1903, this fence should be taken down; and it further provided that the Committee on the Library is directed to report a bill for the removal of the whole Botanic Garden to a suitable location.

The CHAIRMAN. Judge Smith, just read the proviso again, please.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I wish to read it, because I was misled by reading it first myself; and I am very anxious—

Mr. CONNER. Can you not get that in the record?

Mr. HOWARD. Was not the proviso Mr. Sulzer's amendment?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I do not know whose it was; but you will notice that it was not ordered taken down provided this resolution is reported.

The CHAIRMAN. I was wondering if that construction might not be the true one.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I grant you, Mr. Chairman, that in first glancing at it I thought it might bear that construction myself; but upon reading it I found it would only bear one construction. [Reading:]

Sec. 2. That on or before January 1, 1903, the fence around the Botanic Garden shall be removed: *Provided*, That at the first session of the Fifty-sixth Congress the Joint Committee on the Library is directed to report a bill embodying a plan for removing the Botanic Garden to another location.

So that practically nine years ago Congress declared its purpose to move this Botanic Garden.

I therefore answer my friend Mr. Sherley that this is but a temporary Botanic Garden; that the purpose has long been declared to remove it—and it ought to be removed. We either ought to simply abandon it, consolidating it with the propagating gardens or the Agricultural Department, or else we ought to establish a botanical garden in consonance with the dignity of this people.

Mr. SHERLEY. If the gentleman will permit me, his argument is apropos as to the need of a new garden; but it does not answer the specific question as to whether trees and plants in a botanical garden are not properly occupying ground, in the sense of the words "occupied ground."

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I will answer the gentleman that in my judgment a tree does not occupy the ground any more in a botanical garden than in any other park or public place. All parks and public places are kept for the growing of trees, and they are ornamental, and so on; but I do not think a tree occupies ground any more in a botanical garden than it does in a public park. And in every instance where this or substantially this language has been used, it has been held that the trees did not occupy the ground within the meaning of the act authorizing the locating of a memorial there.

I am taking up a good deal more time than I wanted to at this time, because there may be many suggestions that I shall want to make to the committee on these bills before the hearings are concluded. I have answered this question, and perhaps have drifted too far. Mr. Chairman, in doing so.

The CHAIRMAN. Judge Smith, the committee would like to hear you very fully. It occurs to the committee that there are some gentlemen here from out of town who would like to get away as soon as they can.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I think so; and I wish to have them heard first.

The CHAIRMAN. We will have another hearing later, and will then hear you at length.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I shall be very glad indeed to yield to anyone now. Most of these men are here from out of town.

The CHAIRMAN. Perhaps this is the time to hear General Dodge, the chairman of the commission.

#### STATEMENT OF GENERAL GRENVILLE M. DODGE, CHAIRMAN OF THE GRANT MEMORIAL COMMISSION.

General DODGE. Gentlemen, perhaps it would be better for me to state to you here the efforts that have been made to build a memorial to General Grant.

In 1895 the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, of which General Grant was formerly the commander, appointed a committee of its officers, several of whom were Members of Congress, to come to Washington and to appeal to Congress to make a proper appropriation for a proper memorial to General Grant. That committee came here and labored up to 1901. In 1901 what was known as the Hepburn bill was passed, which appropriated \$250,000 for a memorial to General Grant; and the commission named to carry it out was Secretary Root, Mr. Wetmore, and myself. That law, as Judge Smith has said, we all considered as adequate. But when the question was raised as



to the jurisdiction of Congress, in order to be in accord with Congress and do nothing that would not meet their approval, we simply asked that that amendment be passed. But we do not consider and did not consider that the location of the memorial down here was made under that amendment. It was made under the original act.

Our first work under this act authorizing the memorial was to obtain the models. In asking for models we selected ourselves two places. One was the north point of what is known as the "White circle," the north end of it; and the other was the square south of the State Department. We did that because the sculptors, in presenting their models, wanted to make models that would fit the ground where they were to go. The model which was accepted, which I think is one of the finest that has ever been produced, had, before it was accepted, the judgment of St. Gaudens, Mr. Daniel G. French, Mr. Burnham, Mr. McKim, General Schofield, and Mr. Meredith; and they were unanimous in accepting it. That model was made to fit the north end of the White House lot. It is 254 feet long and 69 or 70 feet wide, and of course requires a great deal of space about it.

After the model was accepted there was a great deal of opposition to our going into the White House lot. The President and some of the members of the Cabinet and others thought that that lot should not be disturbed. They claimed that it broke the view from the White House to the Washington Monument. And in response to those protests we made up our minds that if we could find a place in Washington that was suitable for the purpose we would go to it. The commission for two years looked at every square and every place in Washington, and we finally located in the Botanic Garden here in 1903, and made up our minds that that was the only ground that had the space and that was proper for a memorial to Grant. We considered that the memorial to such a person as General Grant should be somewhere in connection with the White House and the Washington Monument or with the Capitol and the Washington Monument—on the axis of two of those buildings. We did not think it was proper to put it out in the city here in any confined square. Therefore we located in the Botanic Garden in 1903, and remained there, looking at other places as from time to time they would be proposed to us. For instance, when they got the Union Station here some persons came to us and suggested that we place Grant in the plaza in front of that station, and the commission went there and viewed that site. We found that that was under the District Commissioners and the District Commissioners had other views in the matter, and of course would not let us go there. When Secretary Taft became a member of the commission the question of this location came up again, and we considered it, and it was concluded that this was the only place that was suitable in Washington to place a memorial to General Grant.

In the spring of 1906, when it was coming near the time that we should commence work, or consider it, we had the outline of the memorial staked out there; and it has been staked out there for two years. We never have had any protest or any communication of any kind in relation to it. The location was accepted generally by everyone, and a great many persons consider it the best. All the sculptors



and architects of the country that have seen it have said that it was a fine location and a proper location.

When work was commenced in the Botanic Gardens this fall, Secretary Taft was in the Philippines and I was out West; and I received a communication from the War Department to the effect that there were protests being made on account of the three historical trees. That is the first that any of us ever heard of those trees. We knew nothing about them. Nobody had ever said a word to us about them, although we had had staked out there in the grounds the outline of this memorial. And after receiving this protest, and not being able to be here, I sent a telegram to Lieutenant Poole, who had charge of the work in the absence of Colonel Bromwell, directing him to suspend the work until I could return.

When the time came to make the actual location in the grounds, Colonel Bromwell, who had charge of it, and who had already made the location, suggested to the commission that we have some experts to advise him as to the exact location and as to the fitting of the model to the location. At his suggestion, Frederick Law Olmsted, jr., of Massachusetts; Mr. McKim, of New York; Mr. Shrady, the sculptor; Mr. Casey, the architect, and himself were designated. They made the location almost exactly where Colonel Bromwell had originally made it. They having made the location, and knowing all about it, I, at the suggestion of the Assistant Secretary of War, asked those gentlemen to meet me here on the 12th day of November to go and see what we could do to change the monument or to save the trees.

Several of the gentlemen who were present at that meeting had had a great deal of experience in the moving of trees; and it was the unanimous decision of the commission that there was no difficulty in moving these three trees and saving them. And upon that the commission advised unanimously that the monument be retained where it was and that the three trees should be moved.

Since that time the commission has investigated this matter of moving the trees and has gotten all the information there is. We have with us here to-day a gentleman who has been in the business for thirty years, who has been here and seen these trees, and has successfully moved trees equally as large. The commission desires, before you make any decision, that you will hear him. He has photographs and other data to show you, and he stands, I think, at the head of that work in this country.

Even up to to-day we have never had any communications—I do not think we have had a single communication—asking that this monument should be removed, but we have had a great many letters and have had resolutions from a great many societies protesting against it. I will simply read you some of them to show what sort of communications the commission has received.

Secretary TAFT. That is, General, against the change?

General DODGE. Against any change of the monument. We have had a few (two or three or three or four) communications in relation to saving the trees, but none that advise a change in the location of the monument.

Among these resolutions is one embodying the action of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee. All of the members of that society have been here and have seen this location. All of the members of the

Societies of the Armies of the Potomac and the Cumberland have been here at times and seen this location; and I think the veterans of the civil war generally are greatly pleased with the location. There is no question but what General Grant's family are very much opposed to any change. There have been sent to the commission the resolutions of the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion. General Grant went into the service from that State. There is the letter of the sculptors in New York in relation to the location being a proper one. There are the resolutions of the New York Commandery of the Loyal Legion, of which General Grant was a member. There are also resolutions of the society of sculptors or architects here in this city, and of the Architectural Club.

The CHAIRMAN. I suppose, General, those resolutions are not very lengthy?

General DODGE. No; I can leave a copy of them with the commission.

The CHAIRMAN. The Chair would suggest that they be given to the stenographer and be spread in the report of the hearing.

General DODGE. I will give them to him when I have picked them out.

The CHAIRMAN. Please do so, if they are not very lengthy.

(The resolutions, etc., above referred to, will be found at the end of General Dodge's statement.)

General DODGE. Now, our monument has progressed. We have a good many of the models of the parts of it. We have commenced work down here. Mr. Shrady and Mr. Casey have gone to a good deal of expense; they have gotten their material down here for the foundation. And I want to say to the Library Committee that the commission has no doubt whatever that it can remove these trees and save them. There is only one tree, the large oak tree, that there would be any difficulty about, if there is with that, because the other two, the Beck tree and the Shepherd tree, are small elms—such trees as are moved around in the parks and everywhere almost every day in the winter. I have seen a great many of them moved; and Mr. Hicks, the gentleman who is here, has moved hundreds of these trees. I am told—I have not seen the gentleman myself, but the gardener of these grounds states that the trees that were moved here when the Capitol was built, and that Mr. Richard Olmsted (the old gentleman) reported on, are still alive.

Mr. WILLIAM R. SMITH. Oh, no; no.

(Mr. William R. Smith entered the committee room while General Dodge was speaking, and left at the time that the change was made to the room of the Committee on the Territories.)

General DODGE. At any rate, they were alive when he reported on them at that time, in 1884, and out of the hundred and odd trees that were moved, a list of which you can find here in the report of the Superintendent of the Capitol grounds (or I can leave it with you), that report being made ten or twelve years after those trees were moved, there are only two of the trees that were lost then, and he said they were poor trees when they were moved.

I think myself (and I have had some considerable experience in it) that the saving of a tree is simply in the method of moving it. I know some places where they move trees and save them, and other places where they do not. It simply depends upon the method they

use in moving the trees. I think that we can move these trees and save them. Certainly we do not want to disturb a historical tree where we can save it; but it does seem to me that a great monument to Grant down here is a greater memorial to peace than even a very valuable tree.

Mr. THOMAS. General, do you mean to say that these persons who have made protests against a change from this spot are wedded to that particular spot and no other in the Botanic Garden?

General DODGE. Yes; they do not think there is any other place in the Botanic Garden that is suitable. We have looked that question over, with a view to placing the memorial in the Botanic Garden and have it in accord with the Capitol grounds, and in accord with the condition when that becomes an open square, which it some day will.

Mr. THOMAS. When the fence is taken down?

General DODGE. When the fence is taken down. It is placed so that when Second street goes through it will be in that square.

Now, gentlemen, you must understand one thing. In locating a memorial of this size, 254 feet one way and 70 feet the other way, you must have sufficient ground around it for its approaches, for its setting, and everything of that kind. All that requires at least. I should say, 500 feet on its long axis and 300 feet on its shorter axis.

Mr. THOMAS. I understand no work has been done at all. The ground has not been broken, has it?

General DODGE. Oh, yes. We have spent considerable money there in installing the foundations, but stopped as soon as I received these dispatches in relation to these trees. I could not come here at the time. I was in the West; and I therefore, at the suggestion of the Secretary of War, immediately asked the department of public buildings and grounds to defer any further action on it until we could come here. We have done nothing on the ground, because we have waited for whatever action Congress might see fit to take.

Mr. HOWARD. General, how does the location of this monument harmonize with the generally accepted plan for the improvement of that part of Washington.

General DODGE. Do you refer to the Senate plan?

Mr. HOWARD. I do not know.

General DODGE. The plan of Washington?

Mr. HOWARD. It has a French name to it that I do not know how to pronounce.

General DODGE. When we located it in the Botanic Garden we placed this so that it would be in accord with that plan. That is, the location of the monument itself in the garden was placed so that if that plan was ever carried out it would be in accord with it.

Mr. HOWARD. Is it now in harmony with the construction, say, of the new National Museum, down on the right hand side of an axis from the Capitol to the Monument?

General DODGE. Yes, sir.

Mr. HOWARD. And the new Agricultural Department building, over on the left-hand side?

General DODGE. Yes, sir; it is.

Mr. HOWARD. And other proposed improvements along in that section?

General DODGE. Yes, sir; it is.

Mr. HOWARD. It is harmonious with that?

General DODGE. It is harmonious with that.

Mr. HOWARD. It takes that into account?

General DODGE. After we got there and found this plan, we located our monument so as to be in accord with it.

Mr. SHERLEY. Mr. Chairman, may I ask the General a question in this connection? Would the carrying out of that plan in harmony with the monument as it is to be placed necessitate the removing of the row of trees that now exists in the Botanic Garden?

General DODGE. No, sir. Our location of the Grant monument there does not require the removal of anything until the garden is opened as a public park.

Mr. SHERLEY. I do not think you quite caught what I meant, General; I did not, perhaps, make myself clear. In the carrying out of this plan that was suggested as a result of the Senate resolution, although not adopted by Congress, would it be necessary to destroy those trees that now run through the center of the Botanic Garden?

General DODGE. Oh, undoubtedly. We never have paid any attention to this plan, except so far as it just fitted our work there. We made our location entirely independent of that and without regard to it. When we found that plan, we simply fitted our model to this part of it. How it would affect, when that is carried out, the rest of the ground, I do not know.

Mr. SHERLEY. The committee did not consider that?

General DODGE. We never considered it; that question never came up before, to my knowledge.

Mr. THOMAS. Then it might-necessitate other changes?

General DODGE. No.

Mr. THOMAS. It might, I say, make necessary other changes.

General DODGE. Not of the monument.

Mr. THOMAS. If you locate it on this particular spot, according to Mr. Sherley's question (you say you have never considered anything except the plan as laid down by the architects), it might necessitate other changes besides cutting down the Crittenden and the Beck trees, might it not?

General DODGE. No; we have only considered this plan that he speaks so far as it affects this location.

Mr. SHERLEY. That is what I understand.

General DODGE. Yes.

Mr. SHERLEY. You have not considered anything else?

General DODGE. No; we have not gone into the carrying out of those other plans.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I do not think you understand each other; do you, General?

Mr. SHERLEY. I do not think so. What I was asking you was this, General: Would this plan, as you carry it out for the location of the monument at this particular spot, probably necessitate other changes in the future besides merely cutting down all these trees marked on Colonel Bromwell's map here.

General DODGE. When that square is opened, of course that ground will be adapted to it.

Mr. SHERLEY. But it would not necessitate any changes immediately?

General DODGE. No; not any changes immediately.



The CHAIRMAN. Without dictating the order, perhaps it might be well to hear Secretary Taft now.

General DODGE. Of course, gentlemen, whatever information the commission have we are glad to furnish you. We want to give you all the information it is possible for us to give. I have not gone into the matter more fully because I know your time is limited.

Mr. HAMILTON. I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, supplementing your suggestion, that we have these communications that bear upon this matter set out as fully as possible as a part of our record.

General DODGE. I will give them to the reporter.

(The papers above referred to, which were furnished to the reporter by General Dodge, are as follows:)

*Resolutions adopted by the New York Commandery of the Military Order of Loyal Legion.*

Whereas there is an effort on the part of some of the press and citizens of Washington to force the removal of the memorial to Gen. U. S. Grant from the Botanic Gardens in that city; and

Whereas General Grant was a citizen of this State, a member of this commandery, and its commander during the years 1884 and 1885; Therefore

*Resolved by the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion.* That the location of the Grant memorial in the Botanic Gardens in Washington meets our approval.

*Resolved.* That the location of the Grant memorial is an ideal one, at the foot of the Capitol and on the axis of the Capitol and Washington Monument, with ample grounds surrounding it. It has received the approval of the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds; of various expert architects and sculptors; the sculptor and architect of the memorial; the army societies; the veterans of the civil war; the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects; also of General Grant's family; and the memorial has been changed to fit the present location, which was made in 1903 and confirmed in 1906. To ask its removal at this time is uncalled for and impracticable, and we earnestly protest against it.

*Resolved.* That a copy of these resolutions be furnished by the recorder of this commandery to the Grant Memorial Commission and to the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Society of the Army of the Tennessee at their thirty-seventh reunion at Vicksburg, Miss., November 8, 1907:

"Your committee, having had under consideration the report of the president of the society upon the Grant memorial, beg leave to report as follows:

"The erecting of a Grant memorial in Washington was first inaugurated by our society in September, 1895, and by continuous effort of the Grant memorial committee the law was finally passed and appropriations made on February 23, 1901, and our society as well as all the veterans of the civil war take great and special interest in the location and final completion of the memorial: Therefore "

"*Resolved.* First, that the location of the Grant memorial in the Botanic Gardens in Washington meets our hearty approval.

"Second, we find, as reported by Frederick Olmsted, the celebrated landscape architect, on June 30, 1884, that more than one hundred trees were transplanted on the Capitol grounds, 1 foot or more in diameter with a loss of only two trees, and that the transplanted trees are still living and have grown more flourishingly than trees on the ground that were not removed; we therefore recommend that the three trees which it is desirous to preserve should be removed and replanted in some proper place.

"Third, the erection of the Grant memorial in Washington in a proper location is of far greater historical importance than the preservation of three trees which commemorate no important event and that have not even been known or commented upon since their planting until now, and to require the removal

of the memorial after the consideration given the question of its location by the memorial commission, the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, the experts, the sculptor, and architect, and the changing of the memorial to fit this particular location, is impracticable, and we earnestly protest against it.

"Fourth. We are opposed to any removal of the Grant memorial that interferes with the plans that controlled its location in the Botanic Garden and request the president of the society who is a member of the Grant Memorial Commission to earnestly oppose any radical change of its location.

"Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the secretary of the society to the Grant Memorial Commission.

"O. O. HOWARD,

"MRS. CHAS. H. SMITH,

"SMITH D. ATKINS,

"GEO. H. RICHMOND,

"GILBERT D. MUNSON,

"Committee."

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NOVEMBER 12, 1907.

Gen. G. M. DODGE,

*President, Grant Memorial Commission.*

SIR: In compliance with your directions of October 28, 1907, calling together the advisory board of the Grant Statue Commission, I have the honor to report that the board met in Washington, November 12, at 10 a. m.

Present: All the members except Mr. H. M. Shradly.

The act of Congress approved June 30, 1906, provides for the location of the Grant statue in the unoccupied portion of the Botanic Garden grounds, between First and Second streets.

In laying out the foundations of the monument, it appears that within the limits of the foundations are included several trees of historic interest.

Public sentiment has generally opposed the destruction of these trees, and the board was asked to consider the possibility of changing the site of the monument within the limits approved by Congress, so as to avoid the destruction of those trees.

The board after visiting the site and maturely considering the question are of the opinion that the site adopted should be retained.

A slight change in location of the monument would not remedy matters, as the trees would still be so near the monument that they would mar its appearance.

It is considered feasible, however, to move the trees, and the committee recommend that the trees be removed to another suitable location.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

CHAS. S. BROMWELL,

*Colonel, U. S. Army,*

*Executive and Disbursing Officer, Grant Memorial Commission.*

CHARLES F. MCKIM.

FREDERICK LAW ÔLMSTED, JR.

EDWARD P. CASEY.

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ELMSFORD, N. Y., November 8, 1907.

Gen. GRENVILLE M. DODGE,

*1 Broadway, New York City.*

MY DEAR SIR: I am in receipt of a letter from Lieutenant Poole in regard to a meeting of the Grant memorial committee to be held in Washington on the 12th instant, and in reply, may state that I will be unable to attend this meeting, as the second two lions are to be cast the beginning of next week, which will require my personal attention.

I have nothing to add, besides what we agreed upon at the previous meetings.

I think the location was selected after a great deal of thought and consideration, and see no reason that it should be changed at this late date. The matter is settled in my mind and I am sorry that I am obliged to say that I will stick by what has already been agreed upon.

These delays are interfering with the progress of the monument, and I will be glad when I can go ahead with a free mind.

Those who have started the agitation about a few trees have forgotten that the nation owes something to its greatest soldier.

I remain, sir, yours, very respectfully,

H. M. SHRADLY.

*Resolutions adopted by the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, November 1, 1907.*

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

*The Octagon, Washington, D. C.*

In view of the recently published expressed comments upon the proposed location of the "Grant memorial" adverse to the site, and condemning the destruction of trees, and a general denunciation of the whole plan of which the location of this monument is a part, it seems proper for a local association of men practicing a profession involving the study and decision of similar problems to express their opinion in regard to this criticism, and to point out what they deem to be misconceptions of the dominating plan, and inaccuracies regarding some of the details.

We are in hearty accord with all efforts to preserve trees, both in the parks and streets, and will render all aid in our power to avert the destruction of any of them. We suggest, however, that records will show that trees can be moved with safety when occasion demands it, and we assume that due consideration was given to this question in the case of the location of the Grant monument, and that the trees under discussion were found by some competent authority to be unworthy of the labor involved to move them. We can understand and sympathize with the aversion to a change on the part of those who planted them and have watched them grow to maturity. It is a misfortune not only to these individuals, but to the city, that no guiding hand pointed out their proper location, in accord with a general scheme for the whole extent of the Mall, in the lack of which separate and unrelated plantings have been dotted in it; these plantings having in each case their main axis crossing that of the Mall.

We are in favor of the location of public buildings on the south side of Pennsylvania avenue, which is a part of the plan as recommended by the park commission. We deplore the fact that this commission has not the legal standing to which its plans and its membership entitles it, and we regret that this primal recognition has not been given.

To us, however, the dominating need is that the laying out of the roadways, parks, etc., and the location of the public buildings, statutes, etc., shall be in accordance with a coherent and complete plan; coherent in that it shall provide for the proper and seemly relations of the parts, one to the other; complete in that it shall provide for all the various needs present or anticipated for the capital city of a nation, promising the future that we look forward to for our own.

This city is fortunate in having been born by such a plan, which has been reviewed by a commission composed of men whose qualifications can not be successfully challenged, and they have recommended its readoption. No other plan similarly considered has been presented.

*Therefore resolved,* That the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects indorses most heartily the wisdom of the park commission in adhering to the original plan of L'Enfant as indorsed by Washington and Jefferson, and in extending its principles in their plans for the greater Washington.

That this chapter considers the vista treatment of the Mall, as contemplated by them, a return to first principles and by far the most logical, effective, and monumental treatment yet suggested, and that a strict adherence to their plans will give to the American people the possibilities for the most beautiful capital in the world.

We affirm that, proceeding under a fixed plan, the amount of expenditure involved is less than would be required in proceeding as has been the custom, without coordination of the units or the cooperation of those controlling them.

We are confident that the necessity for the adoption of a comprehensive plan will be generally recognized, and would call attention to the fact that when adopted the first step toward its fulfillment shall be the planting of trees in their allotted places, for, while roadways and buildings may be constructed as needed, trees are the planting of one generation for the enjoyment of their successors.

*Resolved,* That this expression of our views be sent to the honorable Secretary of War as the representative of the Government on the Grant Memorial Commission in charge of the work of its erection.

## WASHINGTON ARCHITECTURAL CLUB.

*Resolved*, That the Washington Architectural Club adopt the resolutions of the Washington Chapter as an expression of its own views, and that they be published as such, and that the action of this body be communicated to the honorable Secretary of War and the proper authorities.

WADDY B. WOOD, *President*.  
FREDERICK REED, *Secretary*.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Chicago, December 9, 1907.*

Gen. GRENVILLE M. DODGE,

*Chairman Grant Memorial Commission, New York, N. Y.*

DEAR GENERAL AND COMPANION: At the stated meeting of this commandery held Thursday, December 5, 1907, at the Mid-Day Club, Chicago, Ill., the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote:

*Resolved*, That the Commandery of the State of Illinois, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, is absolutely opposed to the removal of the Grant memorial from the Botanic Gardens in Washington, D. C.

Very truly, yours,

ROSWELL H. MASON, *Recorder*.

DECEMBER 9, 1907.

We, the undersigned, fully believe that the location of the Grant monument, at the point approved by the commission (consisting of Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, the Secretary of War, and the chairman of the Library Committee), is the most logical, dignified, and appropriate one within the District of Columbia, and, having been approved by two advisory committees of experts appointed for the purpose, should be maintained.

DANIEL C. FRENCH,  
F. D. MILLET,  
HERBERT ADAMS,  
KARL BITTER.

*President International Sculptors' Society.*  
H. A. MACNEIL.

## STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM H. TAFT, SECRETARY OF WAR.

Secretary TAFT. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee: I fear that in coming in at this late hour I may lack a knowledge of some of the details with respect to the question which has arisen.

The committees on the erection of most monuments in Washington, under the plan adopted by Congress, are changeable committees in their personnel, for they include, usually, the chairman of the House Committee on the Library, the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Library, the Secretary of War, and sometimes a representative of the committee of the army society that is interested in erecting the monument. But generally the Secretary of War is on every committee of this kind, and therefore I am able to speak with some degree of confidence on the difficulty of selecting sites.

Immediately that there is an objection made to one site, the argument is advanced: "There are lots of sites in Washington where a monument can be erected." I wish first to enter a denial that there are lots of sites for any such monument. We now have, I should think, in the War Department some eight or ten committees, of which I have the honor to be a member, that are engaged in hunting sites; and it is the most difficult thing that I know of to find an appropriate site for a monument. The number of sites that are suitable for the Grant monument is a most limited one.



This site was selected before I came on the committee. It was selected by General Dodge, Secretary Root, and I think your predecessor, Mr. Chairman, and probably Senator Wetmore. The site first selected, as General Dodge says, was on the axis between the White House and the Monument; and it was changed because it interfered with that beautiful vista between the back of the White House and the Monument, leading down to the Potomac River. This location was taken up and adopted—I am not quite sure as to what moved General Dodge to it, but I know it moved Secretary Root—because it fitted in so well with the proposed improvement of Washington. Now I know I am stepping on dangerous ground in mentioning that Senate plan, but I have not any hesitation in saying that so far as the War Department is concerned and so far as the head of that Department is concerned, the control that by law is given to the Secretary of War with reference to the public grounds, everything that the engineers do is done with reference to that plan.

THE CHAIRMAN. I doubt, Mr. Secretary, if you put yourself in any danger as far as the committee is concerned.

Secretary TAFT. Therefore, when we came to determine on the details of the monument, after it had been changed from the White Lot to this place, the committee of architects which was appointed advised certain changes in the monument in order that it should not prove an obstacle to the vista between the Capitol and the Monument, in order that both sides should be adjusted to the position that it occupied with respect to the Monument.

The question has been asked whether trees would have to be cut down if this monument is put there. The gentleman from North Carolina asked that question. The putting of the monument there will disturb only a certain number of trees, as I understand it. But if this plan is carried out, and if this monument is made part of the general plan, then, of course, trees will have to be removed.

Now, I yield to no one in my feeling with respect to a tree. I feel as if cutting down a tree were like taking away a life. But, gentlemen, the question is whether we are to be bound by the place at which any man puts a tree with respect to subsequent improvements. I do not think the question can be met by a general maxim that we ought not to move any trees. We must move some trees. We believe, from the expert opinions we have had, that these trees can be moved; and doubtless in the construction of the Mall other trees will have to be moved. We will have to make an avenue through there, and you can not have a tree standing in the middle of a road; and if you wish at any time a correct plan with a straight communication between the Capitol and the Monument, and there are trees in the way, those trees will have to come out. And therefore, to say that you can not move a tree is to say that you can not advance.

On the other hand, we give every consideration in the monument committee to the saving of trees. We have done so with respect to Lafayette Park. There are some fine trees there that it has been proposed to move in order to put monuments at the corner; and we have refused to do that because of a beautiful elm tree that stands just opposite the Cosmos Club.

These trees are said to be historic. I do not deny that in a sense they are historic; but they were not put there by direction of

Congress, and they do not themselves evidence the hapening of any event at the place. They are not like the tree of Appomattox. They do not evidence anything, except that by an arrangement between the Senator from Kentucky and the gentleman who had control this tree happened to be planted there at that time in memory of something. But, gentlemen, it is not evidenced by any historical record that I know of. It rests, doubtless, in the memory of man; but it is not like a monument that evidences something authorized by the public law, as this memorial does.

Therefore it seems to me, as between the two, that the one ought to yield to the other, reconciling them as far as possible. And as we believe that we can move those trees without injuring them, I respectfully suggest that this act be not passed.

(At this point, owing to the damp condition of the walls of the committee room, the hearing was adjourned to the room of the Committee on Territories, in the same building.)

### STATEMENT OF COL. CHARLES S. BROMWELL, U. S. ARMY.

The CHAIRMAN. Colonel Bromwell, will you tell the committee now about the location of the monument as related to the trees?

Colonel BROMWELL. Mr. Chairman, I am simply the executive and disbursing officer of this commission. I have no voice at all in the policy of what the commission recommends or decides. I simply carry out its orders. General Dodge and the Secretary of War have spoken in regard to the policy of the commission, the reasons which induced them to locate this memorial there, the reasons they think it should remain there, and I do not think I can add anything to that.

I have here a photograph of the memorial, which gives some idea of its size. I do not think it is generally appreciated that the memorial is 252 feet long, 72 feet wide, and 42 feet high, and therefore that it is necessary to have a reservation or a site at least 300 by 500 feet, and that the number of these sites, as Mr. Secretary Taft has said, is extremely limited.

This memorial will, I think, interfere with some eight or nine trees in all, of which three or four are so-called historic trees.

The CHAIRMAN. This is the Capitol [indicating]?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes; this is the Capitol. This is the limit of the Capitol grounds. This is First street [indicating on plan].

The CHAIRMAN. Is this the Botanic Garden?

Colonel BROMWELL. No, sir; these are the Capitol grounds. This is the Peace Monument; this is the Garfield Monument; this is First street; this is Third street. So that this plan shows the entire limits of the Botanical Grounds.

The CHAIRMAN. About what is the area, Colonel, of those grounds?

Colonel BROMWELL. I do not know, sir. I have not the figures right in mind. It is practically two squares long and about two squares wide. It is trapezoidal in shape. On this scale the monument occupies a space of about that length [indicating]. This would be the location of the monument on this scale.

Mr. HOWARD. There is now a walk from Third street to First street, is there not?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes; there is now a walk from Third street to First street.

MR. HOWARD. The building of this monument with its long axis in that direction would of course close this walk up?

Colonel BROMWELL. It will cross that walk. It will not necessarily close it up, because the walks would be constructed around the monument.

MR. HOWARD. Yes; that is what I mean.

Colonel BROMWELL. So that a person would simply walk around them.

The CHAIRMAN. The long axis is not at right-angles with the existing walk, however?

Colonel BROMWELL. No; it is not at right-angles to the existing walk. It is at an angle of 1 or 2 degrees. It is on this axis [indicating], while the walk is on an east-and-west line.

The CHAIRMAN. The Washington Monument is a little out of the line of the axis?

Colonel BROMWELL. It is south of an east-and-west line. In the city of Washington the White House, the Capitol, and the Washington Monument are the three important controlling points.

MR. CONNER. This is in harmony with the Monument and the Capitol?

Colonel BROMWELL. The center of it is on the line joining the dome of the Capitol and the Washington Monument.

MR. SHERLEY. Which way is the dome of the Capitol building?

Colonel BROMWELL. This is the Capitol building, here. These are the grounds of the Capitol. This is First street—the dividing line.

MR. SHERLEY. That is the Garfield Monument [indicating]?

Colonel BROMWELL. That is the Garfield Monument; this is the Peace Monument.

(The plat heretofore referred to was put up on the wall of the committee room.)

Colonel BROMWELL. The law authorized the location of this monument in the Botanic Garden between First and Second streets. After that law had been passed I wrote a letter to the Secretary suggesting that the sculptor and architect of the monument, as well as an architect and landscape gardener of reputation, be associated with me in determining the exact location of the monument. The five of us had a number of meetings, and after consideration we decided upon this location. It is a point, as I say, on the axis between the Capitol and the Monument, midway between First and Second streets when extended. Second street does not now pass through the Botanic Garden.

We took into consideration the so-called Burnham plan, which has been approved by the Senate, but has never been approved by the House. This monument is located so that it exactly fits in with that plan. It was not our part to consider whether or not the Burnham plan was a good plan, and we did not take that into consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. But you tried not to have the location of the monument incongruous with that?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes. We felt that if that plan ever should be adopted it would be a great mistake to have the monument in a location not in conformity with the plan. Our location, however, is perfectly satisfactory, and we consider it a very desirable location, whether or not the Burnham plan ever is approved. The Burn-

ham plan can be cut out entirely and our location of the monument will not be affected. We consider it to be the best location for the monument now.

If the Burnham plan is carried out it will necessitate the removal of a great many trees through the Mall. It is proposed, as you know, to have a roadway extending practically from First street to the Washington Monument. We did not consider that it was necessary for us to do anything at all with the trees around the monument at the present time, because it is not necessary to do anything until the Burnham plan is adopted; and when it is adopted the trees in the vicinity of the monument will be a very small portion of the trees that will be affected. Our idea was that, locating it there, that portion of the Botanic Garden might very properly be thrown open as a public park. The law already provides that the fence around the Botanic Garden shall be removed, and the trees and shrubs, and everything left there; and it will then simply be like any other park.

As far as moving the trees is concerned, I think there is no question that the chances are that they can be moved, provided you are going to pay enough money for it. It is simply a question of how much money you want to pay to try to move a tree.

The CHAIRMAN. Colonel, did you ever have any experience in moving trees?

Colonel BROMWELL. No, sir; but I have looked into this matter very carefully; and if you take sufficient precautions, all of which are measured in a money value, you can increase very much the chances of successfully moving trees of the size of these. If you adopt the ordinary way of simply cutting a trench 4 or 5 feet from the tree, and cutting off all the branches that interfere, and moving it in that way, you can well understand that the chances are very much against a successful moving. If you remove the earth 10, 15, or 20 feet from the trunk, and carefully gather up all the roots, and protect them, and move them, the chances of success in moving the tree are very largely increased.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything more, Colonel, that you desire to say?

Colonel BROMWELL. No, sir. I am prepared to answer any questions the committee may wish to ask.

The CHAIRMAN. I think you have covered the ground.

Colonel BROMWELL. Secretary Taft and General Dodge have spoken of the general policy of the commission, with which of course I have nothing to do. Personally, I think it would be a great mistake to let these comparatively few trees stand in the way of the location that we have selected for the memorial.

Mr. CONNER. I think you have said that if the Burnham plan is adopted, it means opening up a way from the Capitol grounds down to the Washington Monument?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes, sir.

Mr. CONNER. Is that true?

Colonel BROMWELL. That is my understanding.

Mr. CONNER. Will this monument, if constructed, be an obstruction to that?

Colonel BROMWELL. No, sir; because their original plan provides that at the head of that avenue there shall be a group of three large monuments or statues. This is practically the same thing, because



the memorial is of such a form that it practically represents three groups—a large central group and two large groups on either side. So it fits in perfectly with their plan.

Mr. SHERLEY. Colonel, would this affect the drainage sewer from the Capitol that now runs right underneath where the statue is to be placed?

Colonel BROMWELL. I have no information that that sewer runs right under where the monument is to be placed.

Mr. SHERLEY. Have you any information that it does not?

Colonel BROMWELL. I can not say that I have definite information. My impression is that it does not—that this monument is located on original ground.

Mr. SHERLEY. Mr. Smith stated to me—that is my only source of knowledge—that it was right under where the statue is to be placed; and I wondered if the commission had considered that feature at all.

Colonel BROMWELL. We considered the course of the original Tiber Creek, a branch of which ran there. As far as we could find out, it ran to the west of that; so that the monument will be located on original soil and not on made ground.

Mr. HAMILTON. How far down is the sewer you refer to?

Mr. SHERLEY. My information is very slight; but Mr. Smith stated that the sewer was right under this walk that is now in the center of the garden, and that every now and then they had a leak from it which served to fertilize the trees, but did not serve any other good purpose.

Mr. HAMILTON. How deep, how far below the surface, is the sewer?

Mr. SHERLEY. Not very deep, as I understood it, though I am just speaking from a casual conversation. Mr. Smith can perhaps tell the committee more definitely about that.

Mr. HAMILTON. Would it interfere with the operation of the sewer if the base of this memorial, which I suppose will be partly cement, should be put around the sewer, and above it?

Colonel BROMWELL. Not at all.

Mr. SHERLEY. Not necessarily. I simply wanted to bring out whether that matter had been considered in this regard.

Mr. THOMAS. Now, Colonel. I want to ask you this question—I want to get the whole matter in mind. The location of the memorial on this particular spot does contemplate, at some time in the future, other changes in the Botanic Garden; does it not? Besides the cutting down of the Crittenden and Beck trees it contemplates other changes?

Colonel BROMWELL. Not unless the Burnham plan is adopted.

Mr. THOMAS. If the Burnham plan is adopted it will necessitate other changes in the existing Botanic Garden. Is that right?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes; but the changes in the existing Botanic Garden would be so small in proportion to the changes that would have to be made in the development of that comprehensive plan that it is not worth considering.

Mr. THOMAS. The Burnham plan contemplates a pathway from the Washington Monument to the Capitol; does it not?

Colonel BROMWELL. It is more than a pathway.

Mr. THOMAS. I mean, it contemplates an avenue?

Colonel BROMWELL. A roadway, an avenue; yes. If the Burnham plan is adopted, this fits in it all right; there will be no changes neces-

sary. If it is not adopted, it is still the best location in the city of Washington.

Mr. THOMAS. You think the trees can be moved?

Colonel BROMWELL. I think the chances of success are greater than the chances of failure.

Mr. SHERLEY. Colonel, would it not be necessary to immediately remove the wall that now surrounds the Botanic Garden after the erection of this monument, to give the proper perspective?

Colonel BROMWELL. As far as the commission is concerned, we have nothing to do with that; but I think that as soon as the monument is erected there, there would be a popular demand to have that wall removed.

Mr. SHERLEY. In other words, to have a proper perspective for that monument the wall would have to be removed?

Colonel BROMWELL. There is no question that those walls should be removed.

The CHAIRMAN. I notice that Mr. Olmsted, of Boston, is here and can speak with authority of the Burnham plan, or what is called the Burnham plan. Whether that is the proper name for it or not, I do not know. Is there anything further that you wish to say, Colonel?

Colonel BROMWELL. No, sir.

#### STATEMENT OF FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED, ESQ., OF BOSTON, MASS.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Olmsted, I would suggest that you now tell the committee what you know about this matter, especially with regard to the location of the Grant monument, and the general plan for beautifying the city in that direction.

Mr. OLMSTED. I think Colonel Bromwell has stated that very clearly and simply.

The CHAIRMAN. First, Mr. Olmsted, state what your relations have been to this question.

Mr. OLMSTED. I was called in, along with Mr. McKim, by the Grant Monument Commission, to advise with Mr. Shrady, Mr. Casey, and Colonel Bromwell as to the precise location of the monument, and as to minor changes in the design of the monument to fit it to this particular location. I suppose one reason why Mr. McKim and I were called in to advise about that was that we had been concerned with the drawing up of the plan which has been referred to as the Burnham plan for the Senate committee some years ago.

The CHAIRMAN. Just why is that called the Burnham plan?

Mr. OLMSTED. Mr. Burnham was the chairman of the committee of experts who advised with the Senate committee in drawing up the scheme.

As I say, it seems to me that Colonel Bromwell has stated very clearly the relation of this proposed placing of the monument to that plan. If at any time, or in the course of time by degrees the various features of that plan should be adopted in whole or in part, the monument, if located as has been proposed, would find itself in harmony with its surroundings. If none of the features of that plan affecting this part of Washington should be adopted, it is a good site in itself.

The CHAIRMAN. With reference now to this plan, Mr. Olmsted,

was it intended that the plan should be carried out as an entirety, or was it a suggestion of ultimate development?

Mr. OLMSTED. You refer to the general plan?

The CHAIRMAN. To the Burnham plan.

Mr. OLMSTED. Simply as a general scheme. Of course it is entirely impossible, in any large undertaking like the treatment of a whole city, to forecast the future and the requirements and demands of the future with any degree of definiteness; but if no attempt is made to forecast the future at all, and successive improvements and buildings and changes, monuments, streets, etc., are planned individually and carried out from time to time as need arises for each particular piece of work, without any hypothesis as to what else is going to be done in the surroundings in the future, results that are inharmonious and relatively unsatisfactory and inconvenient are pretty sure to result. What this general plan was intended for was simply as a hypothesis as to what would be about the best treatment for a great many different individual improvements within a large locality so far as the needs of the future can now be foreseen.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, you are grouping the probable improvements in the future so as to have them all harmonious?

Mr. OLMSTED. So as to have them all harmonious.

The CHAIRMAN. But you looked quite a way into the future?

Mr. OLMSTED. We looked a long distance into the future, and undoubtedly some of the guesses, I may say, that we made as to the requirements of the future will prove to have been mistaken, and in so far the plan will have to be modified to meet conditions as they actually arise in the future. It was simply the best project that we could devise, with the limited knowledge of the future and the limited skill at our possession, to meet the future.

Mr. HAMILTON. That is, this committee devised a general scheme for improvement, and you propose to harmonize the improvements from time to time with that scheme as far as possible?

Mr. OLMSTED. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. It is a desirable thing to accomplish, to keep these improvements in line with it?

Mr. OLMSTED. It seems unquestionably so.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, Mr. Olmsted, what, in your view, are liable to be the immediate demands of that plan? For instance, do you think it is important immediately to develop up near Pennsylvania avenue, that side of it, and to secure that development immediately?

Mr. OLMSTED. That is purely a question of policy about which I have scarcely an opinion, sir, and about which my opinion is really, I think, worthless. As I say, the idea of the plan was simply to form a basis for keeping in mind and keeping in harmony, one with another, the various changes and improvements that circumstances call for from time to time, in the opinion of Congress.

The CHAIRMAN. If you were called upon, for instance, in the present state of the development of the city to locate new buildings, you would be more apt to locate them up toward Pennsylvania avenue than upon the other side of the plan?

Mr. OLMSTED. I should think so, unquestionably.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you not think that the southern part of the plan looks further into the future than the part that would lead along Pennsylvania avenue?

Mr. OLMSTED. Why, unquestionably so, because the Pennsylvania avenue side is the accessible side, and, naturally, in any large development the reasonable thing is to develop the most accessible side first.

In regard to the locality of the Botanic Garden itself, it seems to me that the suggestions of the general plan look very much, indeed, into the future there. The suggestion for the somewhat radical rearrangement of the immediate vicinity of the proposed site of the Grant monument made in that general plan was devised to provide for the coming together at that point of a number of lines of improvement and development, and to make any radical change there until after those other lines of development off to the westward are completed, if they ever are completed, would be a mistake.

Mr. HAMILTON. Would you draw a distinction, Mr. Olmsted, between a botanical garden and a park or a public place in a city in an essentially thickly developed part of the city?

Mr. OLMSTED. I am not quite sure whether I understand your question.

Mr. HOWARD. Take this particular part of Washington City where the Botanic Garden is now located. Would you draw a distinction between the uses that could be made of a botanical garden with a view to arranging it so as to be a part of the ornamental development of the city and its practical uses as a botanical garden for the propagation of rare and curious plants or species of plants, and things of that sort?

Mr. OLMSTED. There is certainly a distinction there. It seems to me that a national botanical garden in the sense in which the Kew Gardens at London, for instance, are the national botanic garden of the British Empire is not well placed in this immediate locality, and the space there is utterly inadequate for a really adequate and scientific botanic garden in that sense.

Mr. HOWARD. Then, logically and ultimately, the Botanic Garden must go from where it now is?

Mr. OLMSTED. As I say, considered as a national scientific institution it is, I think, rather anomalous. To speak frankly, it seems to me that the Botanic Garden, as it is, is more in the nature of such a collection of interesting plants having certain individual interests of a horticultural sort or of a scientific sort as a gentleman might have upon his private place as a matter of curiosity and horticultural interest, rather than a national scientific institute.

Mr. HOWARD. Then if you undertake to make it hybrid, to partake of both natures, you must expect removal of trees and plants and things of that sort, and the interposition of walks, driveways, monuments, and other ornamental features? You must expect that if you hybridize it.

Mr. OLMSTED. I do not quite understand what you mean by hybridizing it, sir.

Mr. HOWARD. Suppose there is a sentiment that demands that the Botanic Garden be kept where it is as a botanic garden, and suppose there is a sentiment that demands that this monument be placed in it and as a part of it. Then when this monument has been placed in it, that is certain to give rise to a feeling that there ought to be some further park arrangement in it. As is now suggested, the very next suggestion will be that you must take down that fence, which is an obstruction to the better view of this memorial. One improvement



will suggest another, and you will have the two contending forces—the one to maintain the Botanic Garden, the other to make it give way, and become a public place, or part of the park plan of the city.

Now, then, I say, as long as that conflict is going on, you hybridize it; you have some botanic garden, and you have some park.

MR. OLMSTED. It seems to me that at present it is, to all intents and purposes, a park rather than a scientific institution; although, regarding it merely as a park with interesting horticultural qualities, doubtless there are some changes which it would be desirable to make. Those would naturally be precipitated, I think, by placing the monument there. I do not think, however, that they would be of a very radical nature.

MR. SHERLEY. Mr. Olmsted, have you examined the garden, and have you seen what specimens of scientific or horticultural interest it contains?

MR. OLMSTED. In a somewhat casual way, I have. They are quite numerous.

MR. SHERLEY. The reason I ask you that question is that you spoke of it as being but little of a botanical garden; and I wanted to know if that was the result of an examination, or a casual view of it from an examination in regard to this park plan.

MR. OLMSTED. I do not mean to imply that for a tract of ground of that size, with the number of plants there are on that tract of ground, it has not a very considerable horticultural and botanical interest. There is a very considerable variety of interesting plants there. But I mean that as a national botanical garden it is simply a drop in the bucket.

MR. SHERLEY. It is insignificant, in other words, as compared to the Kew Garden in London?

MR. OLMSTED. Entirely so.

MR. HOWARD. And because of its limited area it can not be made to approximate it?

MR. OLMSTED. Unquestionably.

THE CHAIRMAN. Mr. Olmsted, your business is the development of estates? You are a landscape architect?

MR. OLMSTED. I am a landscape architect.

THE CHAIRMAN. You have had a good deal to do, I suppose, with the moving of trees?

MR. OLMSTED. Yes.

THE CHAIRMAN. Now, tell us about the probability. Have you seen those trees upon this proposed site?

MR. OLMSTED. Oh, yes; I have examined them.

THE CHAIRMAN. What is your opinion of the effect upon them of attempting to move them—whether they can be moved safely or not?

MR. OLMSTED. There are, as has already been said, only three trees directly affected by the monument to which special importance has been attached, as I understand. Two of those can be moved without difficulty and with very little risk. The third is a larger tree.

MR. THOMAS. Which are the two first?

MR. OLMSTED. The Beck and Shepherd trees. The Crittenden tree is larger, and it is an oak tree. Oaks are not as easily moved as some other trees; and the moving of that tree would be attended with some risk. I think the chances are distinctly in favor of its being moved successfully if adequate precautions are taken. But moving large

trees always involves a certain amount of risk, and I can not deny that. I think, however, that the prospects of successful moving even of the most difficult of the three trees are very good.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Mr. Chairman, may I suggest a question to Mr. Olmsted?

The CHAIRMAN. Certainly.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Mr. Olmsted, if the Crittenden tree was successfully moved, what is your judgment as to whether it would be more healthy in another location than that in which it is now?

Mr. OLMSTED. The Crittenden tree at present does not appear to be very vigorous or healthy. I should not ordinarily advocate moving it as a means of improving its condition, but unquestionably it would be benefited by a certain amount of pruning, root-pruning, and additional fertilization, improvement of the soil about it, if it were merely a question of improving the condition of that tree where it stands. I think it not unlikely that the tree might receive as much benefit from those operations, which would be incidental to moving, as it would receive set-back from the process of moving itself, if adequate pains were taken, as compared with leaving the tree alone and having to improve the conditions about it.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Its roots are largely under the walks now, are they not, where they are not accessible to treatment?

Mr. OLMSTED. It is pretty hard to tell just where they are, and just what the conditions are. I merely know that the tree is not in a very vigorous condition just at present.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And close to a walk?

Mr. OLMSTED. It is certainly close to a walk. I do not believe it suffers very much from that. However, it may.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I refer to the walk, and the consequent interfering with the treatment that might be given now if the walk were not there.

Mr. HAMILTON. Is that soil favorable to the growth of an oak tree?

Mr. OLMSTED. I think the conditions are pretty good. The soil is better down there than up on the Capitol grounds, for instance. That is my impression.

Mr. HAMILTON. What kind of an oak is this?

Mr. OLMSTED. It belongs to the white oak group. I examined it after the leaves fell, and my examination was not a very careful one, but I took it for a swamp white oak. But I understand that Mr. Sudworth, who is an authority on the specific differences of trees, said it was a swamp white oak of the South, which is a different tree—the swamp white oak of Texas, more commonly known as the overcup oak, although that name is also applied to another different oak in other parts of the country. The names of the oak trees are inextricably involved.

Mr. SHERLEY. It is an oak that is indigenous to Kentucky, is it not? It is an oak that grows in Kentucky in a native state?

Mr. OLMSTED. If Mr. Sudworth is right, Kentucky is close to the limit of its range, if not beyond it.

Mr. SHERLEY. I am not positive, but I think it was grown from Kentucky stock—from an acorn taken from a Kentucky tree.

Mr. OLMSTED. That, I understand, is the tradition.

Mr. SHERLEY. It is not really a matter of tradition; it is a matter in the memory of one of the men who was there when it was planted.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not understand Mr. Olmsted to mean that the tree will not grow in Kentucky.

Mr. SHERLEY. No; he is suggesting that it came from the far south rather than to indicate that it was a native of Kentucky. I think we have a great many of those trees all over the South.

Mr. HAMILTON. The white oak has a pretty general range, has it not?

Mr. OLMSTED. There are, of course, a great many species of oaks growing in the white-oak group, and this is one of them. I do not pretend to be an expert dendrologist in regard to the specific differences of the thirty-two oaks that grow in the United States. You will have to call upon Mr. Sudworth for information of that sort.

Mr. HOWARD. Is it not more a matter of by what Congressional law it grew in that place than by what natural law it grows there? [Laughter.]

Mr. SHERLEY. It also seems to depend somewhat upon Congressional law whether it shall continue to grow there. [Laughter.]

The CHAIRMAN. Are there any more questions to be asked of Mr. Olmsted? If not, Mr. Olmsted, that is all; we are very much obliged to you.

General Dodge, you said you had an expert on moving trees here?

General Dodge. Yes; Mr. Hicks is present here.

**STATEMENT OF HENRY HICKS, ESQ., OF THE FIRM OF ISAAC HICKS & SON, WESTBURY STATION, NASSAU COUNTY, LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK.**

The CHAIRMAN. You live in New York, Mr. Hicks?

Mr. HICKS. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you examined these trees upon this location, Mr. Hicks?

Mr. HICKS. Yes; I have examined them.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you state anything that occurs to you in connection with this matter before the committee?

Mr. HICKS. The Crittenden oak is about 25 inches in diameter measured 3 feet from the ground. It appears to be in a condition favorable for moving. That is, it is in its youth; and I find that trees that are young and vigorous can overcome such slight shock as they may receive in moving. So, in my opinion, it is possible to successfully move that tree by applying methods that have been used on other oaks that are of very nearly the same diameter, and that are larger than this oak in the bulk of foliage; and the bulk of foliage which a tree has is more to be considered than the diameter of its trunk in regard to moving it.

I have a plan showing how I propose to move it, and a number of photographs of similar trees that have been moved, if you would like to see them.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee would like to see them, Mr. Hicks.

Mr. CONNER. What experience have you had, Mr. Hicks, in this line of work?

Mr. HICKS. I have been working at it fifteen years. My father has been working at it for perhaps twenty or thirty years previously; and we do this thing very largely. We have a force of about 40 to

70 men, about half of whom are operating on moving large trees. We have 10 large tree-moving machines that we send about the country to move large trees; and it is a frequent matter for us to move a dozen, or in some cases a hundred, trees 30 feet high to ornament a private estate or a park.

Mr. HAMILTON. Where do you live, Mr. Hicks?

Mr. HICKS. At Westbury, Long Island, about 20 miles from New York, in a region that is largely given up to the estates of persons of great wealth, who use large trees in quantity for the adornment of their grounds.

I propose to move this tree by timbers similar to those used in moving a house. First, however, I propose to excavate out 30 feet or 40 feet spread of roots. There [exhibiting picture] is a picture that I prepared for the Encyclopedia of Horticulture, showing the method of excavating these side roots. That method is to start a trench out 15 or 20 feet from the tree and dig down under the roots, which usually are at a depth of about 2 feet or  $2\frac{1}{2}$ ; dig under that, and then with a picking bar, which is simply an iron rod three-quarters of an inch in diameter, pick out and dissect out the earth, which crumbles to the bottom and is shoveled out. That will be continued about to this point; and these roots, as I suppose, will be carefully wrapped with mud and moss and straw and burlap, or some of them will be put in boxes or troughs of soil.

Then, to get under the central ball of earth of the tree, we propose to dig a series of tunnels about 4 feet wide and 5 feet deep, shoring them up with 2-inch plank, and in those tunnels put timbers which will be jacked up and moved on along skid timbers [these two timbers], similar to the manner of moving a house. If a tap-root or collection of deep roots is encountered under the center of the tree, it will be a simple matter to make those tunnels deeper and take a mass of earth as large as necessary below the center of the tree—perhaps 8 feet deep and 15 feet wide. The operation then will look something like this picture, where a tree is being moved on rollers. That is an elm tree, the roots of which are flexible. In the oak the roots are not flexible, and therefore we will keep them spread out in that manner [indicating].

There [exhibiting photographs] are some large trees that have been moved recently. Those were moved 2,000 feet for Mr. H. McKay Twombly.

The CHAIRMAN. What kind of trees are those?

Mr. HICKS. Those are lindens. Here are some pin oaks. That is a pin oak that was moved about ten years ago. This is the same tree [indicating]. The tree when moved was about 18 inches in diameter and 40 feet high, and of 30 feet spread, approximately. Here are three other views of the same tree, showing that that is a permanent success—that it has continued to grow at its normal rate, without any indication of debility or approaching death, or anything which would lead us to believe that the tree will not live out its full natural term.

Mr. SHERLEY. A pin oak is a tree of softer wood than this oak, is it not?

Mr. HICKS. Yes; it is.

Mr. SHERLEY. And also of more rapid growth?

Mr. HICKS. Yes.

Mr. THOMAS. What do you mean by its full natural term?



Mr. HICKS. That may be one hundred years or may be two hundred years. It depends upon when a hurricane blows it over.

Mr. SHERLEY. What would ordinarily be the natural life of this tree, supposing it had no accidents? Is this Crittenden tree a water oak—a swamp or water oak?

Mr. HICKS. I consider it a burr oak or overcup oak.

Mr. SHERLEY. What would be its natural term?

Mr. HICKS. Probably over two hundred years; because I have cut down similar trees and found them of that age. That [indicating] is a pin oak. There is a row of these pin oaks in our nursery. We moved those in, 40 and 50 feet high, to grow on and sell, and keep them there for a few years.

Mr. CONNER. Have you ever moved trees of this kind—what are known as white oaks?

Mr. HICKS. No; because they do not grow in our neighborhood.

Mr. HOWARD. They are very vigorous—the most vigorous of all the oaks growing in the South.

Mr. THOMAS. I think they are easily transplanted, too. That is my understanding—that the water oak of the South is easily transplanted.

Mr. HOWARD. Yes.

Mr. HICKS. Here is my catalogue, if any of you gentlemen wish to look at it. The way in which we move these trees I am showing you is on a tree-moving apparatus on wheels, illustrated here, the tree being taken up by a cradle and the ball of earth in the center. That cradle is operated by screws, much the same as you would take a sapling in your hand to carry it on your shoulder, and a horse is put in front of it. But as this tree is especially valuable, I propose to move it in that manner [indicating picture], which would give it every possible chance of success.

Mr. CONNER. What would be the probable cost of moving it?

Mr. HICKS. I have not the figures for those timbers, so that I can not report on that.

Mr. HAMILTON. Could you give us an approximate idea?

Mr. HICKS. I am sorry to say that I can not, because I have not those figures. I can give you accurate figures on moving some of these others which were moved by the method we use every year. There is a large maple which was moved [indicating].

Mr. HAMILTON. What was the size of the maple?

Mr. HICKS. That maple is about 45 feet high and 40 feet spread.

Mr. HAMILTON. And what is the diameter of the trunk at the base?

Mr. HICKS. About 17 inches.

Mr. HAMILTON. Hard maple?

Mr. HICKS. Yes. That is another hard maple [indicating].

Mr. CONNER. Was that moved successfully?

Mr. HICKS. Yes; it has been living now in its new location for four or five years.

Mr. SHERLEY. Is a hard maple considered a hard wood?

Mr. HICKS. Yes.

Mr. SHERLEY. In comparison to the oaks?

Mr. HICKS. It is about equal to it, or nearly equal to the oaks.

Mr. HAMILTON. It is a hard wood; it is a fuel wood in the North.

Mr. SHERLEY. Most of our maples are very soft wood.

Mr. CONNER. We have both kinds in the North.

Mr. HAMILTON. Yes; we have both kinds.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Hicks, could you suggest some limit within which the tree might be moved? Would it be a matter of \$5,000?

Mr. HICKS. Yes; within \$5,000.

The CHAIRMAN. It would be within that?

Mr. HICKS. Certainly.

Mr. HAMILTON. You stated that you knew the cost of moving some of these other trees of about the same size. Could you state what that cost was?

Mr. HICKS. To move them on this truck, without that mass of earth, may have cost \$200. But that mass of earth changes the operation from an operation with a truck to an operation of moving 50 tons rather than 3 or 4 tons; and as I have not the cost of those timbers, or just the number of days it would take to slide it, I can not state it to you. It is applying horticultural methods to the house mover's methods; and with the latter I am not completely familiar.

Mr. HAMILTON. It would come nearer \$1,000 than \$5, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. I simply wanted to get the limit.

Mr. HAMILTON. I was hoping that we might not get to the upper limit.

The CHAIRMAN. We are not making a contract at present for the moving. I simply wanted to know whether the cost of that method would be prohibitive; that is all. Does any one wish to ask Mr. Hicks any questions?

General DODGE. I would like to ask whether you have with you a list of people that you have moved trees for successfully?

Mr. HICKS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Hicks, what percentage of risk do you consider there would be in moving this tree that you have examined, according to the method you propose to use?

Mr. HICKS. Less than 5 per cent, or I might say less than 1 per cent; because I expect to go to such an expense and move such a mass of undisturbed earth as would support the top remaining on the tree.

The CHAIRMAN. Would you be willing to guarantee it if your method was resorted to?

Mr. HICKS. Yes; I would be willing to make a guarantee—that is, I should want to charge a premium and take the risk.

Mr. HAMILTON. It would be cheaper for the Government to act as the insurer, would it not?

Mr. HICKS. Well, I frequently guarantee trees at 10 per cent. I charge that to cover the risk, as I may have to replace them.

Mr. CONNER. What time of the year would be the best time to move it?

Mr. HICKS. In March or April.

General DODGE. Please read a few of the names of the different people you have moved for and the number of trees. I think the committee would be interested in that.

Mr. HICKS. R. L. Burton, of New York; William M. Baldwin, of Garden City; William H. Baldwin, jr., president of the Long Island Railroad; Edward Blount, of the firm of Edwards & Strauss; Hon. Oliver H. P. Belmont, Mr. Winthrop Byrd, Mr. William Beard, Mr. George Bullock, Mr. Arthur Brisbane, Mr. Paul D. Cravath, Mr. Hamilton Carey, the Hon. W. Bourke Cockran, Mrs. A. Cass Canfield,

Paul Dana, the late Charles A. Dana, the estate of Mrs. David Dowell, Louis A. Eldridge, Ralph N. Ellis, Mr. Roswell Eldridge, Mr. Elmer Franklin, Mr. W. D. Guthrie, of the firm of Cravath, Guthrie & Henderson.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Hicks, the committee will regard you as an expert, unless General Dodge wishes you to read further.

General DODGE. No: I just wanted the committee to get an idea of Mr. Hicks's experience.

Mr. SHERLEY. Mr. Hicks, do you know anything as to the history of the removal of these trees in the Capitol grounds?

Mr. HICKS. No; I am not familiar with it, except I understand that they were moved with a very small amount of roots, which would correspond to perhaps 10 per cent of the amount of roots we propose to take here, and if any failure occurred, I should have attributed it to the small amount of roots.

Mr. SHERLEY. You do not know anything, though, of your own knowledge, as to how they were moved, or the fate of the trees?

Mr. HICKS. I do not.

The CHAIRMAN. Does anyone else wish to ask Mr. Hicks any questions? If not, Mr. Hicks, that is all. General Dodge, have you anyone else here whom you would like to have the committee hear?

General DODGE. I wish to say that Secretary Root intended to come before the committee in relation to this matter, but he is not in the city. I desired his testimony; he was on the commission, you know, when the location was made.

The CHAIRMAN. Judge Smith, have you anyone whom you would suggest that the committee hear now?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I believe not, Mr. Chairman. I feel that we are a little in the dark until we have heard Doctor Smith. Of course we have gone ahead, now, with our side of the controversy almost completely, and if Doctor Smith is going to be examined we would still like to have the privilege of offering additional matter before the committee after he gets through.

The CHAIRMAN. Oh, undoubtedly. What the committee desires is of course, information upon the subject.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And of course there has been nothing offered here at all on the other side.

Mr. SHERLEY. I think Doctor Smith's failure to be here was due to a misunderstanding.

The CHAIRMAN. It was purely accidental, of course.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I have no doubt at all about that.

Mr. SHERLEY. He is very anxious—he is the most eager man to tell his side of the story.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I know he is; and we are utterly unable, of course, to rebut his side of the story until we hear it.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there any gentleman present who came desiring to be heard this morning?

Mr. CONNER. Is there anyone besides Doctor Smith to be heard on the other side?

(There being no response, the committee proceeded to an informal discussion as to the time of the next meeting.)

General DODGE. I have here the report which I think was the Annual Report of the Architect of the United States Capitol for July

1, 1884, where there is a full statement of the removal of these Capitol trees, and the names and sizes of them; and a good many of them were of large size. I see here willow oaks of 3 feet 4 inches girth; pin oaks, 3 feet 7 inches; royal oaks, 3 feet 9 inches; white oaks, 4 feet 7 inches, 51 feet high and 27 feet sweep. Here is an overcup oak that was moved at that time.

(The committee thereupon took a recess until 2 o'clock p. m. of the same day.)

#### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The committee met, pursuant to the taking of recess, at 2 o'clock p. m., Hon. Samuel W. McCall (chairman) in the chair.

#### STATEMENT OF MR. WILLIAM R. SMITH, SUPERINTENDENT NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Smith, the committee desire to hear you upon this question of the location of the Grant memorial, and especially they wish to ask you certain questions about the Botanic Garden.

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Your name is W. R. Smith?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You are the Superintendent of the Botanic Garden?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How long have you been connected with the gardens?

Mr. SMITH. Fifty-five years.

The CHAIRMAN. You may go on and tell us anything that occurs to you in regard to the location of the Grant memorial and the trees that are immediately affected by it.

Mr. SMITH. Well, forty years ago or more, when the war was beginning and begun in fact, I was very anxious for peace and was very much infused with the idea of Mr. Crittenden's being successful, his resolution being passed, and in walking up toward the Capitol with John A. Bingham on the one hand, chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, and Mr. Gartell, of Georgia, a particular friend of Mr. Stevens. I said, "Why can't I be the agent for bringing you two extremists together?" Mr. Gartell said, "Mr. Smith, if your friend Bingham will withdraw his force bill and pass the Crittenden resolution, I will guarantee that Georgia does not go out." Well, turning to Bingham with all the enthusiasm of my nature, at that time especially, I said, "Now, John, now is the time for you to immortalize yourself." He said, "Well, I will see about this business." And he came up and got into the storm center and came back to tell me next day that it was no use, that no one man could control anything about it. That incident induced me to ask Mr. Crittenden and Mr. Mallory, his colleague and friend, Mr. Wadsworth, of the Committee on the Library—and they were all intimate friends—to bring from Kentucky one of the largest acorns they could find, and we would plant it where this conversation took place, in memory of his efforts for peace, even if they failed. It was planted; it has grown; it is a magnificent tree, and there are



children of it over the four quarters of the Republic, and many of them in European countries. Three hundred of them are on the battlefield of Chickamauga, planted there by General Boynton, one of the bravest, grandest men of this Republic. Hence my ardent anxiety to save the Crittenden Peace Oak. If it is not destroyed, it may occupy the position as a peace agent two or three hundred years.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you remember when this was planted?

Mr. SMITH. I do not recollect the exact date, but it was the year before Mr. Crittenden's death. It can be easily verified. Another one, planted by Mr. Howard, of Michigan, is a still handsomer tree; of a different kind, however. It is a scarlet oak, and that is one of the trees that will be destroyed by the destruction, to say nothing of 40 or 50 other trees, the two Morrills, both planted by Justin S. Morrill on that line. The Secretary of War very honestly stated that these were all to be swept away if this plan was adopted. These are trees that have been there, the two Morrills, and I might name 40 or 50 others.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you make a record of these trees; was there any record that you kept?

Mr. SMITH. I have a record of it.

The CHAIRMAN. That would designate them?

Mr. SMITH. I have not put the names on them for a peculiar reason. They would be pulled to death. Sentimentalism goes too far very often, and the people take leaves. There were one or two trees with the names on them that people wanted a leaf—wanted a piece of it—so I have not named them, as I will now if they are allowed to remain. Mr. Beck's tree, adjoining Mr. Crittenden's tree, is an elm that was grown here. When Mr. Olmsted was erecting the architectural terrace that had to be destroyed. There was considerable sentiment about it. George Washington was said to have planted it, and I received the thanks of Mr. Olmsted for taking the roots and potting them, and one of them was planted for Mr. Beck and another planted for Mr. Alexander Shepherd. There was one of them Mr. Forney took to the public works of Philadelphia. Mr. Sargent, Senator from California, took one or two to California. Of course I do not know what became of these, but the sentiment exists with reference to trees in the minds of most scholarly people on the face of the globe.

Now, I will speak about removing the Crittenden oak. No sensible man, going to the spot, would contend for a minute that such a thing could be done. I was astonished at Mr. Dodge assuming to suggest such a thing. Go there yourself and you will see that it is simply a nonsensical statement. With reference to some of the other trees, there are several of them of which Mr. Forney and Mr. Forrest, the great tragedian, and an honor to America, brought me the seed, and I laid them in a flower pot and now they are nearly fifty or sixty feet high, standing there now as sentinels, telling their stories, leading people to think. My great countryman, Andrew Carnegie, is the chief agent of this peace question, but that tree will do more, if left alone, than all the publications he ever made, because it sets people to thinking. There is an object lesson; can you get a better one? It came from Washington—that is a grand thought. It is a magnificent

specimen of the vegetable kingdom and leads people to think about higher objects, if you please. I am prepared to answer any questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, Mr. Smith, when, if you know, was that garden established?

Mr. SMITH. George Washington selected it as a botanic garden, as a part of the college scheme that he had, as readers of history know, and in 1822 an effort was made to make a garden of it, and a collection of rare trees—native trees—was planted about the very spot where it is proposed to put General Grant's monument. That was in 1822. It has been known as the Botanic Garden since before the Government moved to this town, and I hear a good deal about L'Enfant—the L'Enfant business. The beginning of his scheme was on Third street, where he wanted a grand fountain or a monument, or something else, and a straight walking leading through to the Presidential gardens. Instead of that, they borrowed money, and instead of the straight walk, they put a canal where people could probably indulge in the poetry of Venice and beautiful gondolas, and all that sort of thing. Solitary and alone I put the ball in motion to fill up that canal; got a number of Members of Congress from Nashville to offer the resolution to fill up the canal and make a sewer at one end of it and a basin at the other, putting Andrew Jackson's remark to the old Mr. Blair that he did not want such a dirty, stinking ditch in the middle of the town when God Almighty had made such a beautiful waterway.

The canal was filled up, the sewage was turned from that route through the sympathetic feelings of a great man. Thaddeus Stevens, who gave me the money to arch the Tiber filth. Eighteen thousand evacuations floating there was what you met as you went over here down to the market, and he gave me, without any report, \$10,000 toward arching Tiber Creek, and it was finished to the tune of \$80,000. There was no report. Mr. Thaddeus Stevens said, "No, that is a nasty, stinking, dirty, filthy ditch, that should be filled," and he gave us the \$10,000 because he could not get the yeas and nays on that, and now, to relieve that, it has cost a million. The relieving sewer, the largest barrel sewer in the world, relieves it, and they have just put another one down here, where the monument would go. Whenever there is a storm you can have sewer water of the vilest kind floating up, whenever this storm is met by high tide. We get the water coming out from the very spot where you propose to put that monument. It is the lowest part of Washington, put there purposely, made low purposely, so as to give an elevation to the building. So that, instead of placing General Grant's monument in the lowest part of Washington, why, such a general, of world renown as he is, should have the highest part, the most prominent part, and the proper part for a place for it is where every citizen of the Republic who comes here could see it, and Lincoln, his companion, in or near the new depot. There is the spot to put General Grant's monument.

I was astonished that General Dodge said that the corporation would not allow it. The corporation can not stop it. The corporations are your agents; they can not stop it. That is the place for it, and I tell you, the whole civilized world will back my statement. No man could gainsay it, that there is the proper place where he should be seen by all visitors. Now, the sentimental side of the question I

have stated to you with reference to Mr. Crittenden. That sentimental statement is over the world. There is the record [indicating book] from nearly every paper of note. That hole is not the place to put the statue of such a man as U. S. Grant, and it will not do to say that it is want of sympathy for Grant; that will not do. I have some of his personal notes, thanks for various little courtesies, and his right-hand man was my best friend—nobody was kinder to me—a delightful man who lost his life down in Florida—was killed in battle. I have been and I am an admirer of Grant, who was of Scotch descent: I am a Scotchman and proud of it, but prouder still of being an American citizen. There is no doubt, gentlemen, but what you have an important question to decide. Decide it right. There was one great thing that aggravated me, the terrible desire on the part of these folks to have that thing fixed so that Congress should not have an opportunity of deciding it. That was not right; that is my way of putting it. They proposed to tear up flower beds when there were lots of people coming to see the city from Norfolk, and I was anxious that everything should be left until that was over, but they said, "No; hurry up, because we want this done before Congress comes." Was that right? I appeal to anybody.

Colonel BROMWELL. Who told you that? We never told you.

MR. SMITH. The folks had work there, the people had work there. Was it not so?

The CHAIRMAN. What is the design of this, Mr. Smith? Is it intended, has it been your intention, that this should be a national botanic garden in the sense in which the Kew, which was mentioned here this morning, is a national garden of the British Empire?

MR. SMITH. No, sir; I am a graduate of the Kew Gardens, was there for the regular number of years, and came here—might have been there my lifetime. My namesake, Smith, said, "What are you such an American for? If you will stay here we will do something for you." But I would not, and I came to this Republic, and I thank God that I came. I have been brought in contact with the best minds in the best age of the world, and I am proud of it. With reference to the Kew Gardens, it is entirely different. There the great effort is to increase knowledge of botany. My great effort has been to disseminate it. The dissemination of knowledge is a more important question to me, especially in a republic, than even the increase, because its dissemination brings increase. And I have studiously done the best I could. You, sir, are from Iowa [speaking to Mr. Smith, of Iowa]. There is where we put the Chinese sugar cane first in the soil of America. I got it from a Cuban in the West Indies, and it was worth \$500,000 annually to you during the war. That is one of the results. Judge Mason authorized me, or authorized the clerk, to send \$40 for it, and I sent 80 bushels, especially at that time, before it became valuable property. With reference to various other things I could name a dozen, two or three dozen, that I have been instrumental in introducing and disseminating throughout the length and breadth of this country everywhere. There were about 12 palms of a certain kind. Mr. Corcoran, the banker here, had one; I had one, a small one. I made a pet of it, attended it, and we disseminated 60,000 seeds and plants from that and Mr. Corcoran's palm, and to-day there is a man in Philadelphia with 1,000,000 palms



for sale, mostly of that character. The dissemination of information is one of the most important questions in connection with progress.

I could enumerate some of the other things. I gave some cuttings off one little plant to Mr. Henderson, a florist, and he admitted that he made \$10,000 out of those cuttings. I gave a few of them to Mrs. Cannon, a delightful woman, to take to a florist out west, and he probably got \$40 or \$50 out of it—the difference between advertising and not advertising it. You know this florist business is not such a small thing as it once was. The florist pay \$1,000,000 in postage and an equal sum to the express offices. My set purpose has been diffusion of such things as are for the people. I am a people's man and proud of it.

The grandest product of this Republic to me is Abraham Lincoln. That thought was given me by a Confederate senator who said that he could not understand what on earth was the force behind it until he came to study him and he saw that Lincoln was the grandest force of the Republic, and I challenged him and said George Washington was, but he said, "No, George Washington was not; he was a protégé of the English Parliament." That grand character was to me a wonderful man in every way; his Scotch doggedness, stubbornness; Scotch in all his stubbornness. I have sometimes thought that General Dodge had some Scotch blood in him, because he has considerable stubbornness in him.

General DODGE. I think you are right in your diagnosis.

Mr. SMITH. I have had his picture for thirty years, and his letter to me hastening the little things that I was going to give him for the decoration of his home, and I guess that helped to make him a grand citizen, because these plants have a double action. They are cherished because they come from Washington, and we can not cherish a better feeling on earth than when we lead people from nature up to nature's God, the grandest religion on earth.

Mr. CONNER. Mr. Smith, do you think the garden an improper place to locate this monument?

Mr. SMITH. Undoubtedly; I think it is the worst place possible that could be chosen.

The CHAIRMAN. Where does the Tiber Creek cross Pennsylvania avenue?

Mr. SMITH. On Second street. There is where the first \$10,000 was spent that we got through Mr. Stevens.

The CHAIRMAN. About how many specimens have you in the gardens?

Mr. SMITH. I can show by object lessons between forty and fifty thousand. Botany is not in the schools as much as it used to be, because young medical students are not compelled to study botany. Their examinations are done without it. Through Mr. Morrill, of Maine, we offered to the various colleges the opportunity to have their classes study botany there, I to be demonstrator. The Howard University came first, and that stopped all the remainder—that terrible prejudice, you know—that stopped them; stopped the other colleges from accepting the invitation, and that stopped the whole business, because they did not continue. We have a nice room for students, and the plants can be moved there and examined as the lecturer would want, but they do not do it. So, then, I have fallen back again into disseminating them over the length and breadth of



the Republic through the Representatives of the people. That is my aim and object, chiefly.

The CHAIRMAN. How many trees are there in the garden?

Mr. SMITH. There are three or four hundred trees, and then there are any quantity of ligneous plants; that is, permanent plants, such as I gave to General Dodge to decorate his home.

Mr. CONNER. Do you think this ground is lower than the other part?

Mr. SMITH. Four feet above tide, the lowest part of Washington; made low by Governor Shepherd's suggestion that he must lower it so as to elevate the buildings; and the best part of the scheme that Mr. Olmsted laid out is to be destroyed, as I understand, by this scheme of making those ells on to this lovely Capitol, with all its simplicity and grandeur. He wants no such things as ells attached to it.

Mr. CONNER. Water does not stand on this ground, does it—the surface water?

Mr. SMITH. No; it passes away when the tide does. The tide ebbs and flows under the place where you propose to put Grant's monument twice a day.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you know the location of the Capitol sewer with reference to this site?

Mr. SMITH. It goes right through it.

The CHAIRMAN. Does it follow the line of the walk?

Mr. SMITH. It follows the line of the walk, and there are two holes. I have just shown your young clerk where I have seen it rise up to that height [indicating], 2 or 3 feet—2 feet anyhow. Whenever a high tide meets a storm then there is trouble. One of the results of this scheme would be to get rid of that sandstone and get granolithic walks, because they would be easier to clean off when it comes. There is no doubt they have not reached the troublesome spot. They dug some places for the foundations on the driest part of the whole ground. I have hauled in 500 loads of stuff into that yard. It is, in some places, within 17 feet of a fill, and it is all artificial except where they have dug. On the outside you would find it different. It just suits that tree, the Crittenden tree. It will live there 200 years, I hope, in spite of my distinguished friend's effort to destroy it. I intended to bring up with me—but I came in a hurry this time—an oak staff cut from a tree 300 years old. Some time ago some one cut that from an oak and some of his descendants gave it to me.

I have no sympathy with vandalism of any kind. Three hundred years old was that Wallace oak, and part of it is in the Burns's collection of your humble servant. I am very fond of curios and I am especially fond of good men when they are right: I am diametrically opposed to them when they are wrong. As I said before, I am proud of the opportunity to have associated with the elite of this nation. A man came down to the gardens the other day, sometime ago, and with him one of his constituents, pretty put on. And I made a mistake. I said, "I beg your pardon, sir, are you a Member of Congress?" He said, "No, thank God." I said, "You are a very ignorant man and do not know what you are talking about. There is a case of history. Name a period when as much has been done for the industrial order of mankind in the country I am proud to belong to, as has been done in the ninety years these folks have been assembled."

Of course, the next day I had to apologize for being a little rude to the constituent, but the Member of Congress said, "Oh, Smith, you must excuse him; he had made an argument before our committee and lost his case, and that changed his whole nature."

MR. THOMAS. Have you any idea whether this Crittenden tree could be transplanted?

MR. SMITH. No; no sane man would propose it for a minute. If you want to destroy it, cut it down, but do not attempt to transplant it. Do not waste public money on it. Just look at what poor Mr. Olmsted did. There is the man who can tell how many of the trees that have been moved are dead. Where is that grand tree, one of the most magnificent, finest specimens on the globe? Mr. Sumner had a fondness for trees. He said to me: "In traveling in the cars, my eye constantly looks out to see if I can see a handsomer specimen, and it is seldom you see it." "But," he said, "there is one east of the Capitol. I want you to go and take a look at it;" and he sent Mr. Bingham to see if I could give him the botanic name of it. He made a speech, trying to save it, but where is it? Snuff boxes and other things are made from it. It is dead, and nearly every other one, too. Ten years ago I made this statement in Boston, that none of the big trees that they made an effort to save, should not be carried away, but just lowered. They are all dead. I regret to say it, but they are all dead. I am glad to say it, because I want that fact to go over the length and breadth of this Republic so that the people will not waste their money trying to transplant big trees when it takes just as long for young ones to get up as for old ones to die.

The young tree that I planted for Mr. Bingham is the handsomest tree in the garden. John A. Bingham was my particular, pet friend, and he and Mr. Sumner used to walk over and take a look at that tree, and I gave him a name for it. And there, down in the gardens, not in the line of the destruction, but not far from it, where your marks are destroying everything, there is Bingham's tree, and I have 500 of them for distribution in pots to-day to the select citizens of the Republic. I call it the Bingham-Sumner tree, because they used to quote "*Tu patulae recubans sub tegmine fagi*."

You must excuse my Scotch; it is not very good Latin. You know Mr. Sumner was a very fine scholar. One of these trees Mr. Sumner had by his house here doing pretty well. There are anywhere and everywhere relative trees of this peace oak. There is no subject so grand; no subject so important to-day, as the question of peace, whatever you do to-day.

MR. SMITH, of Iowa. May I ask Mr. Smith a question?

THE CHAIRMAN. Certainly.

MR. SMITH, of Iowa. When did the Botanic Garden so far take shape as to have a superintendent, do you know?

MR. SMITH. About two years before I came here.

MR. SMITH, of Iowa. You have practically been in charge of this from its inception, have you not?

MR. SMITH. Mr. Beckworth, a very able man, went around the world with Captain Hicks, and the result was that they brought home a very large collection of plants.

MR. SMITH, of Iowa. But you say it never existed as an organization with a superintendent until two years before you took charge of it?

Mr. SMITH. No; you understand, it was named on the map.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I know about the map; but the first was two years before you were superintendent?

Mr. SMITH. I came to be assistant.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Now, you understand that this statue, esplanade, or whatever may be the proper name for it, is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet above the level of the streets?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And the garden where you speak of the tide coming up is below the level of the street now?

Mr. SMITH. Yes.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. So that you do not mean that the committee shall understand that the tide could ever possibly rise——

Mr. SMITH. And flood it.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa (continuing). And flood it, except the foundation of it, of course.

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. But it would be far below the platform?

Mr. SMITH. Yes.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Six or 8 feet below the platform?

Mr. SMITH. Oh, yes.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Now, you have the impression, Doctor, that nearly all the trees that Mr. Olmsted transplanted died?

Mr. SMITH. Oh, yes; nearly everyone. That rare one especially and a great many others.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. That is the impression on your mind, that nearly all of them died?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Doctor, you have devoted your entire life to the subject of botany?

Mr. SMITH. Cultural botany.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. But you never, in fact, have made any practical, personal experiments in moving trees to any extent, have you?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir; I gave Mr. Olmsted a good many trees.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And he was doing the moving. I say, you are not a practical man in moving the trees yourself; you have had no practical experience in that, have you?

Mr. SMITH. I have only been superintendent of 80,000 trees being planted in the city of Washington.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Yes, but they were young trees.

Mr. SMITH. Young trees.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I am asking you now whether you ever had personal charge, made a special study, of the moving of large trees?

Mr. SMITH. I have made a special study of it everywhere.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. By reading of it?

Mr. SMITH. By reading of it. You take the trees of Mr. Olmsted, planted in parks. I went to Paris, especially, and I made a special study of the whole question. My first occupation was moving big trees, and I went back to see the biggest trees that were moved when I was an apprentice boy. They were living; they never had flourished, but the little ones that I and my companion took charge of, our own trees, were growing. Chicago paid \$40 a tree, and they would not die and they would not live, and their experience has been immense in the wasting of public money in connection with that.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. So your study has been entirely a theoretical one?

Mr. SMITH. A practical one.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. You never have studied and tried to devise methods of moving big trees?

Mr. SMITH. No; because I never believed in it.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Because you never believed in it?

Mr. SMITH. No.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Have you ever had any occasion to examine the system of Mr. Hicks as recommended by the Agricultural Department?

Mr. SMITH. He is an elegant man.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And very noted in his business, is he not?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir; and I have been to see him.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And you say the trees he has planted have died or failed to prosper?

Mr. SMITH. They do not succeed as well as younger ones.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Oh, maybe not, but they have prospered.

Mr. SMITH. They have. Mr. Hicks is one of the most talented men in that line of business.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there anything more you want to say to the committee?

Mr. SMITH. No, sir. I hope I have convinced those gentlemen of their mistake, and will be delighted if I have.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. How large is this type of tree, this Crittenden tree, when it is full grown: how big in diameter?

Mr. SMITH. I do not know; you can go and see it.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I do not mean this tree; I ask how large they grow.

Mr. SMITH. Oh, immense.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Six or 8 feet?

Mr. SMITH. Oh, yes; and it is in fine health. That tree one hundred years from now, if you folks have nothing to do with it, may be one of the grandest exhibitions in the city of Washington.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Growing to 6 or 8 feet in diameter, possibly?

Mr. SMITH. Yes. Unfortunately I had to cut off a little piece of it, which I did not want to do.

The CHAIRMAN. That is all, Mr. Smith. The committee is very much obliged to you for coming.

#### STATEMENT OF MR. FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED.

Mr. OLMSTED. Mr. Chairman, I should like to say a word correcting, if I may, Doctor Smith's statement about the mortality among those trees which were moved by my father on the Capitol grounds. Mr. Cogan, who was in charge of the grounds then and has been in charge since, can give you definite information about that better than anybody else, I think. But I might say that of those that were mentioned specifically there was a list of 22 in the report of the architects of the Capitol in 1884, about ten years after the moving was done, eight or ten years, and that gave statistics in regard to 22 of the trees, most notable because of their size and for other reasons. There are no records, precise records, of the dimensions or number or kind of the other trees, except the records which remain in Mr.



Cogan's memory, who knew of the trees when they were planted. Of those 22 that were listed in the report of 1884, all are now alive with the exception of 1, which was injured a few years ago and had to be removed, the injury having no connection, of course, with the matter of the tree having been removed twenty-five years before. The average size of the 22 in 1884 was 4 feet  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches in girth, and their average size to-day is 6 feet 10 inches in girth. Some of them are not in perfect condition; some are very handsome.

The CHAIRMAN. Do the records show what the size was at the time they were removed?

Mr. OLMSTED. Unfortunately, there are no definite records, so far as I know. They may exist in the archives at the Capitol.

Mr. SMITH. I would like to ask about the Sumner tree; how long did it live?

Mr. OLMSTED. Mr. Cogan can answer any of these particulars.

### STATEMENT OF WILLIAM J. COGAN.

Mr. COGAN. I will answer the question about the Sumner tree. The Sumner tree was left on what I term a pinnacle, a very small knoll, right in the center of the lawn in front of the Senate end. It grew there for about four years, and the lawn was graded up, but it looked badly and the grading was condemned by a great many people, for the sight of this little tree standing on an eminence by itself was very unsightly, and under the direction of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds at that time, and with Mr. Olmsted's consent, we undertook to have the tree lowered, and I did lower the tree, and it lived, after lowering it, for about five or six years, and then died. But it never was very healthy after it was moved.

Mr. CONNER. How old was the tree when you lowered it?

Mr. COGAN. The tree at that time, I think, was 25 or 30 years old. I think I remarked in moving that tree about it having no fiber, very little roots. The clay was a stiff, very hard clay sod, and there were no roots at all to the tree.

Mr. SMITH. Was it not the handsomest tree in the city of Washington at that time?

Mr. COGAN. It was a very handsome tree, I admit. I have trees in my grounds to-day that I got from you, sir.

Mr. SMITH. Exactly.

Mr. COGAN. We have trees that you gave Mr. Olmsted from the Botanic Garden, and they are healthy now.

Mr. SMITH. They were very young—

Mr. COGAN. Not so very young, at all.

Mr. SMITH (continuing). And trained to move, taught to move.

Mr. COGAN. Not so very young.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Olmsted, have you finished what you were starting to say?

Mr. OLMSTED. I was just to ask if Mr. Cogan could say about how many trees were moved and about what proportion of these trees are now living and in vigorous condition?

Mr. COGAN. I could not answer that question accurately. There were quite a number of trees moved, and some of those trees that were moved were cut down afterwards in their full vigor, because they happened to be out of place, and then the storms came along and

broke down several of them. I can show these trees where the storms almost uprooted them; I can show you some to-day, some on the north side and some on the south side. And some lindens were badly used up by the storms and they had to be removed, and, I suppose, were. As well as I can recollect now, I think there were not more than fifteen trees altogether, of the lot that was moved, that died.

Mr. CONNER. How many were moved?

Mr. COGAN. I suppose 150 or 200.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. You say that not more than fifteen died; you mean they died as a result of the moving?

Mr. COGAN. No, sir; not as a result of moving, but died from the time they were moved up to the present time.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. In a lapse of something like twenty-five or thirty years?

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Some of them were blown down?

Mr. COGAN. Some of them, yes.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Did the wind blow down any of the trees that were not moved at all?

Mr. COGAN. There were not many trees that were not moved.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Is there any reason to believe that the moving had weakened them so that they were blown down?

Mr. COGAN. I do not think so.

Mr. HAMILTON. Were they blown down by the roots, or were they broken down?

Mr. COGAN. They were broken down.

Mr. HAMILTON. So that the roots were solid in the earth?

Mr. COGAN. The roots were in the ground; yes. There is a very good specimen of that work by the storm right at the corner opposite the Coast Survey, an elm that I called Mr. Olmsted's attention to a little while ago. It cut the elm tree right in two, and it was sawed off and it is a good tree now.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I would like to ask if at the time of the moving of these trees by Mr. Olmsted the art of moving trees had been developed so as to carry the vast quantity of earth that Mr. Hicks carries with his trees now?

Mr. COGAN. Yes; I suppose it has been developed since I moved those trees, but then I used to move very large balls. I take a ball of earth 7 or 8 or 9 feet in diameter, sometimes 11 feet, according to the size of the tree.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Now, if the party moving them went out 30 feet from the tree and built a framework under the tree and carried it just as they would a house, would that improve the chances?

Mr. COGAN. Why, certainly; the bigger the ball the less the hurt to the tree.

Mr. HAMILTON. If you have had occasion to observe from your observation, does the diameter of the tree that is moved differ from the diameter of a tree that has not been moved? Is there any difference in the fiber of the tree: is it any bigger: is there any less sap, or anything of that sort?

Mr. COGAN. There may be less sap for a year or two, until the tree gets well established, but I do not think there is any difference in the wood: I never noticed any.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Mr. Cogan, are you familiar with this map [exhibiting map to witness]?

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. What is that map?

Mr. COGAN. It is a map of the United States Capitol grounds.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Does it show where those trees were moved?

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Is there any way in which they can be identified as moved trees as distinguished from trees that have not been moved?

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Show the committee how they could be distinguished?

Mr. COGAN (referring to map). The trees that have been moved are marked with red pencil.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. When you say moved, you mean after they had become considerable-sized trees?

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. CONNER. How large were the largest of them?

Mr. COGAN. The largest one, ten years after it was planted, was 6 feet 5 inches.

Mr. CONNER. That is in circumference?

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. CONNER. What kind of a tree was that?

Mr. COGAN. An elm.

Mr. CONNER. What was the size of this Sumner tree that you spoke about when it was moved?

Mr. COGAN. It was not more than 10 inches in diameter.

Mr. CONNER. At the time it was moved?

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH. But it was spread out.

Mr. COGAN. Yes, sir; but the diameter of the tree was very small, not more than 10 inches, if that much.

Mr. CONNER. Not so large as some others, then?

Mr. COGAN. No, sir; but there are better specimens on the grounds to-day of the same kind.

Mr. HAMILTON. What timber was the Sumner tree, what kind of timber?

Mr. COGAN. It was a hornbeam, European hornbeam.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Smith, did I understand you correctly to say that there was an excavation at this end of the garden so as to give the Capitol greater relative height? Is this end of the garden artificially excavated and made low?

Mr. SMITH. No; everything has been filled up.

The CHAIRMAN. I understood you to say that they excavated this end.

Mr. SMITH. No; they left it low, but the other end I filled up 7 feet.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I desire to offer a few suggestions for the use of the committee before we close.

The CHAIRMAN. Certainly; we are glad to hear from you.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I do not know that I can add greatly to the knowledge of the committee, but I do feel that this committee ought to go and see the magnitude of this project. This great memorial, 250

to 260 feet long, can not be located in any considerable number of places suitable in this District. I state it upon the authority of Gen. Fred Grant that gentlemen have written him urging the location of this in other parts of the city, believing that it would promote the property values in those localities. There are those here who would like to see this moved because they would like to see the Government buy some more land. Our dear friend, Doctor Smith, whom we all regard so highly, would like to see it moved, because it seems to trench upon his preserves, in a measure, and I am not criticising harshly these gentlemen who, from one motive or another, want to move this memorial. But the fact is, General Grant does not need a memorial so far as he is concerned. This memorial is simply an evidence of our appreciation of Grant. Such a testimonial must not be given in a spirit indicating that we are unwilling to sacrifice small things in order to do it. The Grant memorial, after once being ordered by Congress, has been buffeted all about this city. It was to go back of the State Department, or it was to go back of the White House, and it was kicked out of there; and then it was to go up by the station, and it was kicked out of there. Now, that is not a generous way in which to pay a tribute to General Grant.

MR. HAMILTON. Mr. Smith, in relation to the location of this memorial near the new station, I understood Mr. Smith to say that that was the best place in the city for the location of the memorial, and that it could be as well located there as anywhere, and that Congress controlled the whole situation. What have you to say about that?

MR. SMITH, of Iowa. Well, the plaza belongs to the District of Columbia. Of course, I suppose that, with the absolute control we have over the District of Columbia, we have the power to rifle the District of any property it has, but I am not going to pass on any legal right of the District. Here is this memorial, driven about this city by these things. Why did you appoint a Commission, and give it authority to locate it in any spot except the Capitol grounds and the Library—and nobody will say that this is a part of the Capitol Grounds. You appointed a distinguished Commission; they have been buffeted about from place to place, trying to get a place to put this memorial, and we who are pretending that we are going to do an act as evidence of our appreciation, are quarreling and caviling where it is to be located, and now, after the Commission has agreed on a location for this memorial and the decision of that Commission is unanimous, we want to revise their action. Of course, if something awful has been done it would be proper to revise their action. But they have spent years hunting a location in the city of Washington big enough to hold this tremendous memorial, with its great length and its great breadth.

THE CHAIRMAN. Do you know what the height of the monument is to be?

MR. SMITH, of Iowa. Something like 30 feet.

COLONEL BROMWELL. It is over 40 feet.

THE CHAIRMAN. That is, from the level of the ground?

COLONEL BROMWELL. Yes.

MR. SMITH, of Iowa. I want to say that if there is anyone who thinks the Capitol is to belittle this, if he will go down there and look from the west he will see that the 40-foot memorial will not be overshadowed by the Capitol.



Mr. HAMILTON. Which way will it face?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Toward the Monument; from the Capitol. I do not claim to be an artist, but all the great architects, all the great students of art, who have investigated this question unite in saying that it belongs down there and nowhere else in this city. Now, I have all the respect for old trees possible. I can not quite agree with our friend, Doctor Smith, as to the historical character of these trees. They are of but slight historical significance. Of course, they are of great significance to our dear friend, the Doctor, who has planted them and reared them, cared for them, but a tree that was planted in memory of the abortive efforts, however laudable, of Mr. Crittenden ought not, in my judgment, to stand in the way of placing the memorial to U. S. Grant where every man charged with any responsibility in this matter—the architects, the artists, the commission, everyone—agrees that it ought to go. I do not believe these trees will be injured. But the Doctor told us that they tore up a tree planted by George Washington simply to put in the marble terrace about this Capitol, and it does seem to me that if a tree planted by George Washington was not sacred enough to stand in the way of the marble terrace about the Capitol, then a tree planted even by such a distinguished statesman as Mr. Crittenden, who was engaged in the laudable efforts for peace, and the tree planted by Mr. Beck, of Kentucky, and one in the honor of Boss Shepherd, ought not to stand in the way of a memorial to U. S. Grant. I am almost tempted to-day to quote Mr. Beck, to show how he would have felt—and I will quote him—about putting this tree that he had planted in the way of a memorial to U. S. Grant. When James A. Garfield became President of the United States and sent the nominations for his Cabinet to the Senate, it was proposed by an adverse majority in the Senate to defer confirmation of his Cabinet. Mr. Beck, with his hardy Scotch wisdom, arose and said that “If our party wants to remain out of power for twenty years, let it refuse for an hour to confirm the nomination of the son of Abraham Lincoln to a place in the Cabinet.” I say that a man who felt that way and gave that wise advice to his party associates would deeply regret to know that the planting by him of a tree in the Botanic Garden was to be utilized to obstruct the proper placing of the memorial to U. S. Grant.

Now, it seems to me this is trivial. I realize that dear Doctor Smith can not look at it as I do, and that I can not look at it as he does. He has special relations with these trees and with this garden that make him have deep feeling, and I do not wonder at it. But to say that we are going to get this monument again out of its place, where it has finally been located after years and years and years of effort, when the whole plan has been changed to fit this location, a second set of contracts have been let, and, finally, they are at work at last after efforts of twelve years upon the part of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee to erect this memorial in the lifetime of some of the leaders of the Army of the Tennessee—to say that we are again to tear this memorial loose from its location and send these people out wandering, seeking a new location—is wrong. I think these trees too unimportant to be moving this memorial about on their account, at all. But I am as confident as I can be that we have brought before you the most capable tree mover in America and he says that there is a 100 per cent of chance that he can move these trees with safety.

He and his father before him have spent their lives in this business. It is stated by the Agricultural Department that this firm and one other are the greatest producers of improved machinery for the moving of heavy trees in America. We have got, then, what I regard as a trivial objection, as compared with the question of whether we are going to do this indignity to the memory of Grant and this indignity to ourselves, by saying that we are going to move this memorial once more after all these years of effort to get it located. But even that trivial objection, I believe, is entirely eliminated by the testimony of Mr. Hicks. He is an experienced man on this subject, and then we have the testimony of the man who has been in charge of the trees of the Capitol grounds all these years and knows the wonderful success of Mr. Olmsted in moving them in 1884. I do not know that I can say much more. There is no use of talking about its being lower than the tides. It is admitted that it will be more than 8 feet above high tide.

This ground has under it a clay subsoil. General Dodge, who has served on the commissions that built the Logan memorial, the Sherman memorial, and is going to build this memorial, if this committee does not try to make this run on years and years until he can not see it located, says that he has not put up one of these memorials that he has not had to put piles, and here, 8 feet below the surface, they have found a clay subsoil sufficient to hold this memorial. So, I appeal to this committee that if we are going to do anything as a tribute to Grant, we have got to do it generously; we have got to do it broadly, willing to sacrifice something to express our admiration and our love for Grant, and this business of quarreling, whether it injures the prospect of the White House, or whether it is going to take property from the District of Columbia, or whether it is going to take down some tree having some historical association and moving it, is going to destroy whatever of credit there is in the erecting of the memorial at all.

#### STATEMENT OF COL. CHARLES S. BROMWELL.

Colonel BROMWELL. We wrote to the District Commissioners and asked if they had any objection to the memorial being placed in front of the Union Station as a part of the station site, and they wrote back that they did not think it would be the proper place for it. The principal reason was that it would not fit in with the plans that they had already adopted and which were partially completed at that time. As I understand it, they laid out those converging avenues which open into the plaza so that they converge into three principal points, and these points were to be marked according to their plans, by some conspicuous objects, such as fountains, or something like that. Now, the dimensions of this monument were such that it did not fit in with these principal focal points, and if it were placed there, it would have lost all the benefit of laying out the converging avenues in that particular way. Another reason was, it would be hard to handle the traffic right there. This platform is 3 or 4 feet above the surface, occupying a very considerable portion of the station right in the vicinity of the station, which would interfere with the handling of the traffic. And another thing, there was some objection to placing it there, because it would seem somewhat of an appendage of the

railroad station. So, for all those reasons, they suggested that it be not placed there.

Mr. HAMILTON. In other words, the surroundings would be inharmonious?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes, sir.

General DODGE. There was just barely room to place it there.

Colonel BROMWELL. Just enough room.

The CHAIRMAN. I heard this suggestion made, which I think was put forward by Mr. Woods, the Supervising Architect of the Capitol, to take all the land that lies between what the District has and the Capitol, so as to make an open sweep from the Capitol directly to the station, and that there would be a fine location for a monument in that open plaza. Everybody coming to Washington would see beyond this great plaza the Capitol, and on the way to it they would see the monument. Do you not think that that would be a very fine location for a monument? I do not mean necessarily for this one.

Colonel BROMWELL. I think, in general, yes. I think that is a plan that would meet with the hearty approval of everyone. Whether or not this particular one would be worked in there to advantage, I do not know.

The CHAIRMAN. You mean this particular plan?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes.

Mr. SMITH. Those blocks cost \$750,000 apiece. It would be a million and a half.

The CHAIRMAN. I was not thinking of it simply with reference to this memorial.

Mr. CONNER. We have the project in the Public Buildings Committee now. I think we will work the problem out sometime, but it will take some time.

The CHAIRMAN. That proposition is up?

Mr. CONNER. Yes; it has been up and canvassed and discussed.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Secretary Root desires to be heard, Mr. Chairman, before the hearings are over.

The CHAIRMAN. We will keep them open.

Mr. THOMAS. Have we had any definite figures as to what the cost would be for moving these trees?

The CHAIRMAN. I asked Mr. Hicks this morning to give them within limits. I said, "Would it cost as much as \$5,000," and he said, "No." That is, to move the Crittenden tree, which would be the difficult one.

Mr. THOMAS. That is a pretty high figure. Can Mr. Hicks give us some minimum figure?

Mr. HICKS. I regret to say that I haven't those figures. I was expecting to meet a man and get the cost on the timbers and the shipment here, but I haven't those figures.

The CHAIRMAN. Will you prepare an estimate, as near as you can, for the committee, and send it to the clerk of the Library Committee of the House? I think, Judge Smith, it might be well, then, to keep the matter open, and if we can find out when it will be convenient for Secretary Root to come, we will try to accommodate him.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I have no right, Mr. Chairman, to prompt, but I would be very glad if the clerk would notify me of any hearings they have on this subject.



The CHAIRMAN. You undoubtedly have that right. Where did you say the model could be seen, Colonel Bromwell?

Colonel BROMWELL. Fifteenth and C streets SW., the Propagating Gardens.

The CHAIRMAN. Will we have to give you notice in order to get there?

Colonel BROMWELL. It is open any time up to half past 4, between 9 and half past 4.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee, then, will take an early opportunity to look at the model.

Colonel BROMWELL. I should be very glad to meet the committee or any members of the committee and show them the model.

The CHAIRMAN. We will notify you, then, and try to meet you.

(Thereupon, at 3.30 o'clock p. m., the committee adjourned, to meet at the call of the chairman.)

#### COMMITTEE ON THE LIBRARY.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

*Wednesday, January 15, 1908.*

The committee met at 2.30 o'clock p. m., Hon. Samuel W. McCall (chairman) in the chair.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. ELIHU ROOT, SECRETARY OF STATE.

The CHAIRMAN. Gentlemen, the hearing was called at this hour because it was convenient for Secretary Root to be here, and we will be very glad to hear him. You may not know the course the hearing has taken, Mr. Secretary. It is perhaps a little wider than the bill upon which we are holding the hearing calls for. Any observation that occurs to you with reference to the Grant memorial the committee will be glad to hear.

Secretary ROOT. I am very much obliged to the committee for considering my convenience. I am glad to have an opportunity to say something about the location of the memorial, because I have noticed some misstatements—statements indicating a misunderstanding about it—in some of the newspapers. The commission created by Congress to secure a design and select a site and to erect a memorial was composed of the Secretary of War, the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Library, I think—

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Wetmore.

Secretary ROOT (continuing). Senator Wetmore and General Dodge, I think, as president of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee. At that time I happened to be Secretary of War, and so was a member of the commission. We met and organized and proceeded to the discharge of the duty that was imposed upon us by Congress. We took up the subject, I think, with especial interest, because General Dodge and I had been associated with General Porter in the building of the Grant memorial in New York. We were the two vice-presidents of that association, and had taken an active part in the entire enterprise, and had been very deeply interested in it as personal friends of General Grant and of his family. When General Porter went to Paris as ambassador, the monument and its management,



with the direction of the association, were left to General Dodge and myself as vice-presidents, so that we were already in the business and we took up the work of the statutory commission *con amore*.

The CHAIRMAN. As qualified experts, also.

Secretary Root. So far as a great deal of attention to the subject would qualify us. Our work was not at all perfunctory; it went rather beyond the ordinary interest of the performance of a statutory duty. We had a competition for design, got some gentlemen to help us to select a design, and canvassed the subject of site very fully. We first thought of the site immediately south of the State, War, and Navy building, and we thought of a site on the White Lot south of the White House, but we were not fully satisfied with either of those, and went all over Washington and looked at every place we could think of, and we discussed every place that we looked at, until finally we came to the conclusion that the monument, or the memorial, as I think the statute calls it, ought to have a definite relation to the public buildings of Washington, and we settled upon a site directly in front of the Capitol as being the best possible site. We considered that we were authorized by the statute to select that site because, although it was within the fence which surrounds the Botanic Garden—the grounds of the Botanic Garden—it was unoccupied. So we selected that by a formal resolution. We also selected the design and made the contract with the architect and the sculptor for a memorial which, in our judgment, was adapted to that site. That was the position in which the matter was left when I retired from the War Department, and my knowledge of the matter ceased. However, I still kept a warm interest in it.

In selecting that site, we had a good many things in view. We considered that the statute, which made an appropriation of \$250,000 for a memorial to General Grant, meant something more than the ordinary statue which, as Secretary of War, I have been engaged in putting up around the city as a member of similar commissions. We felt that it was the intention of Congress, plainly exhibited by the difference between that statute and the ordinary monument appropriations, to indicate a distinction, and that it was our duty to secure a design and to select a site which would be distinguished, and which would put the memorial to General Grant on a different footing from the memorials to many generals and public men of inferior place in history. We considered also the fact that indications were many that the region about the Capitol was about to receive attention and to be rescued from the somewhat unkempt and uncultivated condition in which it had remained for so many years.

The CHAIRMAN. You are not thinking of the statue of Washington east of the Capitol, the seminude statue?

Secretary Root. No. The new Library had already been built, and the plans for the new buildings for both houses of Congress had been talked of, and it had gone to such a point that those buildings were evidently to be put up, this building that we are in now, and the Senate building. The plan for the removal of the Pennsylvania Railroad from the Mall and the putting up of this great station immediately north of the Capitol had been far advanced, and it was quite evident that the movement of the improving tendency was toward this particular site, and that the neighborhood of the Capitol was, within a very short time, to be made worthy of the Capitol

itself. So we considered that a great memorial to General Grant would be a fitting part of the bringing up of the surroundings of the Capitol to a point worthy of the Capitol building. We considered that that immediate prospect made it all the more appropriate that we should select that site.

We considered the plan, which had already been made public, of the so-called park commission, with regard to the beautification of Washington, and we considered what effect upon our judgment the doubts as to whether that plan would be followed or not ought to have. We came to the conclusion that, while the site of the memorial which we determined upon fitted perfectly into the plan if carried out, that, whether it was carried out or not, this was incomparably the best site there was in Washington for the memorial.

The CHAIRMAN. It did not depend upon the carrying out of the Burnham plan?

Secretary Root. Not at all. I think the carrying out of the Burnham plan would probably improve the site, but we were clear that, whether it was carried out or not, it was altogether the best site that could be found, and so we performed the duty that was imposed upon us by Congress and finished our work in that respect.

We made a contract, as I think I have said, with the architect and the sculptor, under which they have gone on with their work until, I understand, they are now ready to put the work on the ground. It has now been five years since the design was selected and the site was selected. Not speaking now as a member of the commission, for I have ceased to be a member of the commission, but speaking as a citizen interested in the memorial to General Grant and as a citizen who has been happy to count himself among the personal friends of General Grant, I wish to express a very sincere and earnest hope that the work of erecting this memorial to him shall not be interfered with; that the work that has been done, which has taken so many years, shall not be destroyed; and that the whole effort shall not have to be made over again, for a large part of the money that was appropriated by Congress will have to be expended under the contract that has been made. The design that was selected is adapted to a low, level site, and it is intended to be so that it will not come in competition with lofty buildings; it is not, itself, to be a lofty memorial.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not assertive.

Secretary Root. No; it is not assertive. It is intended to be put in juxtaposition to some of the public buildings of Washington, and not to compete with them.

I think there ought to be a memorial to Grant, and I think it ought to be put up by his old friends and followers and comrades who are still alive, and I hope that the work will be allowed to go on in accordance with the decision reached under the authority of Congress and in the performance of the duty that was imposed upon the officers named by Congress. I do not think of anything else, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Does anyone desire to ask the Secretary any questions?

Mr. CONNER. Were you a member of the commission when the contract was let?

Secretary Root. I was.

Mr. CONNER. What pecuniary loss would result to the Government if a change should be made?

Secretary Root. I can not tell, because I have not been a member of the commission now for years, but there must have been a very large part of the compensation going, under the contract, to the sculptor and the architect, which must have been earned already, if the work is ready to be put upon the ground.

Mr. CONNER. From the investigation that you made in selecting the site, do you think of any other site in the city that would be nearly as suitable as this one?

Secretary Root. I do not. The one that would come the nearest to it, in my judgment, would be the one on the White Lot, but there have been some serious objections to that.

The CHAIRMAN. Were any steps taken to begin the construction of the memorial on the White Lot?

Secretary Root. No, sir. The fact is, the design that was selected would take up so great a space as to be very incongruous with the present uses of the White Lot, materially infringe upon that, and as to practically make it impossible to put it anywhere else that I know of in Washington than where it has been located. The platform is two or three hundred feet long; between the groups, I mean.

General DODGE. In asking for the designs, you remember we submitted two places that they should fit, and this memorial was fitted to the White Lot.

The CHAIRMAN. How long did you say it was?

General DODGE. Two hundred and fifty-four feet on its longest axis.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. If the Secretary recalls it, I would like to have this fact in the record: In answer to Judge Connor, you spoke of no expense having been put upon it until it was located in the new site. Do you recall, Mr. Secretary, when you came to adapt it to the present site, that the length of it was changed, and a number of changes of that type made?

Secretary Root. That adaptation was made after I had left the commission.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. So that, if any expense was lost, incident to those changes, you would not know about that?

Secretary Root. No.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Secretary, the design was originally made with reference to two locations. I think you stated?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. Just one, the White Lot.

Secretary Root. We gave two alternative locations, I think. We carefully guarded ourselves against being committed to either of them. One was south of the State, War, and Navy building; that would be opposite the Corcoran Art Gallery, a location corresponding on that side to the Sherman statue on the other side, the Sherman statue in front of the Treasury on the other side; and the other was a point on the White Lot directly on the axis of the White House.

Mr. HAMILTON. Then some modification was made when you came to select this location in the Botanic Garden?

Secretary Root. The modification was made after I left the commission.



Mr. HAMILTON. But made with reference to this last selected location?

Secretary ROOT. Made with reference to the last selection. There was no modification made, so far as I can remember, with regard to the White Lot plan.

General DODGE. Yes; we had to lower the statue for this location, making two approaches, two steps, on each side. Those were the only changes made.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. And you shortened it?

General DODGE. Shortened it 10 feet.

Secretary ROOT. For this location?

General DODGE. That was for this location here.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I think, if you will pardon me, Mr. Hamilton, that you misunderstand this situation. The plan was not to submit designs that would be eligible to either site, so that they could use the same design on each of the two sites, the one back of the State Department and the one on the White Lot, but to submit designs that would fit those two locations. That is, this one would never have fitted that back of the State Department.

Mr. HAMILTON. I understood that that was precisely what was done, that the design was intended to fit either one of those locations.

Secretary ROOT. You could get a copy of the invitation.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. These tracts were of entirely different shapes, and it was not possible to draw one design that could be used on either of these tracts, but the invitation was to artists to draw designs, and they could draw them at their election for the one site or the other. And this one finally adopted was one drawn for the White Lot and could never have been put on the State, War, and Navy lot.

Mr. HAMILTON. That is a statement of an entirely different condition from what I supposed existed.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. This memorial could never have been put on the White House lot.

Mr. HAMILTON. I am very glad to know that.

General DODGE. This design would not have fitted south of the War Department. There were a great many designs, some for the site south of the War Department and some for the other sites.

Mr. HAMILTON. This design was intended to fit the White House lot?

General DODGE. Yes.

Mr. HAMILTON. And was subsequently changed to fit this location?

The CHAIRMAN. General Dodge, could you, without any trouble, furnish the committee with a copy of the invitation to the artists and the architects?

General DODGE. I think I can.

The CHAIRMAN. If it would be no trouble I think it would be well for us to have it.

General DODGE. I think Colonel Bromwell has one.

Secretary ROOT. They have them in the War Department, undoubtedly.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Secretary just one question. This location in the Botanic Garden is fixed by the statute. Is there no other spot in the Botanic Garden at which, in your opinion, the memorial could be located, except this particular spot which the Commission selected? Unless we change the existing



law, the memorial is already located in the Botanic Garden. The question I am asking is this: In your opinion, is there no other location in the Botanic Garden which could be selected for this memorial other than that which has been selected by the Commission?

Mr. CONNER. East of Second street.

Mr. THOMAS. Well, east of Second street. To make my question clear, the pending bills before the committee provide that the memorial shall be located on any unoccupied ground, provided that such location does not interfere with historic or other trees. That is practically the whole issue before us, unless some other bill should be introduced. Now, the question I am asking is, is there any other location in the Botanic Garden, which is now fixed by existing law as the place where the memorial is to be located, on which it could be located?

Secretary Root. I suppose it might be moved east or west. It could not be moved east very well, but it might be moved to the west. But it seemed to us that the eastern end of the garden was much the best place for it, so that we did not consider very much about putting it anywhere else in the garden. Our idea was to have it a part of the general scene which took in the Capitol—this broad memorial with the Capitol rising behind, so that it would be a part of the Capitol group, enter into composition with the Capitol behind it.

Mr. THOMAS. I do not suppose, Mr. Secretary, you are familiar with all the details of the grounds in the Botanic Garden, but, in your opinion, in your judgment, is this location probably not only the best, but the only location, which could be selected in harmony with the surroundings? We want to save these trees, if we can; if we can not, then that is another question.

Secretary Root. I could not say as to that.

Mr. THOMAS. In other words, you do not wish to express any opinion about that?

Secretary Root. No; I have not examined the grounds for the purpose of finding any other place in the Botanic Garden. I had never heard, at the time we located it there, of any of the trees there being historical, and never since then, until a few weeks ago, that I remember.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I have one letter here, Mr. Chairman, which I would like to introduce. Some question was raised the other day by Doctor Smith in reference to the sewers in that vicinity, and I will read this letter and give it to the reporter to put in the record.

Mr. Smith read the letter, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER COMMISSIONER  
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,  
Washington, January 14, 1908.

DEAR SIR: The sewers serving the locality wherein is situated the Botanic Garden drain into the B street and New Jersey avenue trunk sewer. This sewer is protected by tide gates at its outer end, so that flood water from the river will not back up therein.

Very respectfully,

D. E. McComb,  
*Superintendent of Sewers.*

Col. CHARLES S. BROMWELL, U. S. Army.

*In charge of Public Buildings and Grounds.*

Mr. HAMILTON. I do not understand that it was apprehended that sewage could get above the surface in any way.

The CHAIRMAN. Doctor Smith said that it did, sometimes, back up.

Mr. HAMILTON. That was in years past.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. He claimed that it came up to the sewer at a time of high tide in the river.

Mr. HAMILTON. In that case, anyway, it would be in the sewers.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. He said that it gave off noxious odors. I may say to you that the platform of this memorial is 8 or 9 feet above the level of the ground, so that if the water did come up it would not rise above that platform.

Mr. HAMILTON. What was the surface of the sewer up there?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. It did not appear.

Mr. HAMILTON. There must be a considerable depth.

The CHAIRMAN. Judge Smith, have you made any attempt to locate the sewer that is said to run along the path under the monument? Is there a sewer that will run under the monument?

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. The fact of the matter is, I suppose, that if that was true, the building of the memorial would be a benefit to the sewer, and not that the sewer would be an injury to the memorial.

The CHAIRMAN. As some testimony was given on that point, I desired to know the location of that sewer.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. I am not prepared to say that the sewer does not run under the walk, nor that it does, except that Doctor Smith states it, and I have no doubt that what he says is the fact. I am sorry that I did not look the matter up, which I would have done had I known the committee would want it, but inasmuch as this memorial will go down to clay probably 6 or 8 feet below the present surface, a solid, concrete mass, it will certainly benefit the sewer.

The following letters were ordered to be placed in the record:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 14, 1908.*

Gen. G. M. DODGE.

*No. 1 Broadway, New York.*

DEAR SIR: We offer to move the Crittenden oak to some part of the Botanic Garden for \$1,865. This with the understanding that we are to have authority as to methods and time of moving, pruning, drainage, and care for two years. Also that we are to have free access to the tree and its site for a radius of 40 feet.

We will move the Beck elm 15 inches diameter at 3 feet from the ground and the Shepherd elm 9 inches diameter for \$320. This with the understanding that the work is to be done under the same conditions as mentioned above for the Crittenden oak.

Yours, truly,

J. HICKS & SON,  
*Westbury Station, N. Y.,*  
Per HENRY HICKS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 14, 1908.*

SECRETARY OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

DEAR SIR: In accordance with the instructions of the Hon. S. W. McCall, I inclose estimate for tree moving on the site of the Grant memorial.

Yours, truly,

HENRY HICKS.

(Thereupon, at 3.10 o'clock p. m., the committee adjourned to meet at the call of the Chair.)

NEW YORK, *January 17, 1908.*

Hon. SAMUEL W. McCALL.

*Chairman Committee on the Library, House of Representatives.*

DEAR SIR: In reply to your letter of the 15th instant, relative to the location of the Grant memorial, would say that the location proposed on the site of the existing Botanic Garden is a position of great distinction, provided the plan of

opening this site up and developing the esplanade between the Capitol and Washington Monument is fully carried out.

I expressed this view to the Grant Memorial Commission some time ago, and reiterated it recently by concurring in the report of the advisory committee, of which I was a member, although I feel that in consequence of the modifications in design consequent upon change of site the memorial per se is not as successful as formerly.

The memorial was first designed to face on a place of parade or review, and its composition was, to my mind, more interesting and unified than at present.

As a possible site for the memorial as at first designed, and one in which the scale of its sculptures would be in more perfect harmony with the surroundings, I have always favored the location along the southerly border of Lafayette square facing Pennsylvania avenue, and as well, all the great parades and reviews that occur periodically in Washington. The statue of Jackson could be placed facing on the opposite side of the square. These two monuments, together with the Revolutionary monuments already provided at the four corners would form a telling group and fittingly embellish this square, typical of the progress of the country's history from the beginning.

It is evident to my mind that these two sites, both located on one of the two main axes of the city's plan, are the only sites available or fitting for this memorial, and I sincerely trust that one site or the other will be decided upon at an early date, for from lack of opportunity to place materials in position our payments are necessarily withheld and the lack of means to carry on the preparatory work is delaying the whole undertaking. The amount of stonework prepared for the original design is about one-tenth of the whole, none of which has as yet been recut for the modified design on the Botanic Garden site, as all work was ordered stopped by the commission some time ago.

The false start has already occasioned us some loss, which we trust may be restored by the Government.

Hoping you will not hesitate to call upon me for further information, if desired, I am,

Yours, very truly,

EDWARD P. CASEY.





# GRANT MEMORIAL.

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COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
*January 28, 1908.*

The committee met at 3 o'clock p. m., Hon. Samuel W. McCall (chairman) presiding.

## STATEMENT OF EDWARD P. CASEY, ARCHITECT OF THE GRANT MEMORIAL.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Casey, we would like to have you tell us what you know about this matter of location, and the place for which you designed the memorial originally, and the changes you had to make—about the adaptability of the work to the location in the Botanic Garden.

Mr. CASEY. I can say that the monument was originally designed for the northern side of the Ellipse, south of the White House, on the edge of the Ellipse.

The CHAIRMAN. Was that referred to in the invitations?

Mr. CASEY. It was referred to in the programme on the invitations. It was thought afterwards that it was not a strictly architectural location. That is, cutting into the side of the Ellipse that way was not considered a very happy position for a monument of that character or of any other character. The Ellipse should be kept intact. Then this location at the foot of Capitol Hill was proposed, and one or two others.

The CHAIRMAN. What others?

Mr. CASEY. The one that I think of is the one in the plaza in front of the new station, and that was considered by the commission quite seriously for some time. Finally the architect of the station, Mr. Burnham, objected to its being placed there, as far as I can understand; I think it was Mr. Burnham, because he had had a plan developed for that plaza involving three fountains on the axes of the different avenues, so that this monument would not fit in very well with them. It was also thought that the monument, being a terrace about 250 feet long, would obstruct the approach to the station, and people could not climb over it to get to the station. For several reasons of that kind that site was given up. Then this site was proposed at the foot of Capitol Hill. Now, that site is a very fine site, providing this park is opened up according to the proposition of making a square at the foot of the hill.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, to keep an open square there?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. That would involve the removal of the Botanic Garden?

Mr. CASEY. Yes; it would.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose the Botanic Garden were not removed, what sort of a site would that be?

Mr. CASEY. I do not think it would be a very good site in its present state.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you have to make any particular changes in the architecture of the memorial as made for the location south of the White House?

Mr. CASEY. Yes; the commission requested me to make the designs symmetrical on both sides, front and rear. The design formerly was a terrace facing only one way, with a balustrade in the back; and the square being symmetrical, it was thought that the monument would have to be symmetrical, so that the rear was made the same as the front; that is, with steps approaching it. Also the height was diminished to about 4 feet. The terrace was made about 4 feet high. That was to enable a clear view over the top of it down the Mall—the park.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the extreme height of the central part of the work above the ground level?

Mr. CASEY. The pedestal, you mean, or the main figure of Grant?

The CHAIRMAN. Yes.

Mr. CASEY. I think Grant's head would be about 30 feet from the ground.

The CHAIRMAN. What is the height of the extreme ends of the work above the ground?

Mr. CASEY. The groups on the extreme ends would be about 14 or 15 feet to the top, and between comes this platform, which is about 4 feet high. I have thought of the subject a good deal, naturally, being an architect, and I can not see any other alternative site here, except that one on Lafayette Square, at the southern border. That is the only other site that I can see that would be suitable for a monument of this size and importance.

Mr. THOMAS. That is right opposite the White House?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. THOMAS. Looking to the White House?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. THOMAS. That will obscure Jackson's monument?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. CONNER. Was the question of locating it there brought up at any time?

Mr. CASEY. I do not think it has been brought up before the commission. I think I have mentioned it casually, but I do not think they have ever thought of it.

Mr. CONNER. We understood the members of the commission when here to say that they had made a thorough effort to find a place in the city to locate it.

Mr. CASEY. This situation or site was the only one they talked over very much, and that finally came to naught on account of the other disposition of the ground that had already been mapped out.

The CHAIRMAN. You in your letter spoke about its being appropriate for a parade ground?

Mr. CASEY. Yes; the monument was originally designed as a point from which reviews and parades could be witnessed on that large Ellipse. It was designed as a terrace, and that was the reason I suggested the southerly border of Lafayette Square as a suitable site, because of that feature, that being a place where all reviews or parades that ever occur in Washington of any size—that is the place where they pass.

The CHAIRMAN. Would comparatively level ground be better adapted to your conception in the architecture than uneven ground?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, it would. It is supposed to go on a level tract. It is not supposed to go on top of a hill.

Mr. CONNER. The ground in either place is level, in Lafayette Square or the ground here.

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir. There never has been any other site proposed except a level site. It seems that a monument of importance should be placed on one of the two main axes of this city. There are only two main lines upon which this city is laid out. One of them is east and west through the Capitol, and the other north and south through the White House. That was the original plan of the city, and all the avenues, the direction of all the avenues, have been developed about those two lines as axes. Now, it seems that monument ought to go on one of these two axes, at some point upon it, and the only points on these axes that I can think of are those which I have just spoken of.

Mr. CONNER. Do you think of a better location for the monument than the one selected, provided it does not encroach upon the Botanic Garden?

Mr. CASEY. I think it is a very good site, and it was always understood that it was to be developed according to the original plans, as it was originally intended to be, and that it was to be open more or less.

The CHAIRMAN. That is, to have that particular locality open, you mean?

Mr. CASEY. Yes. You see the original site of the Washington Monument was at the intersection of these two axes, the north and south axes, and the east and west axes were the sites for the Washington Monument. When they came to build the Washington Monument they forgot all about that. They overlooked it, and put the monument off about 150 feet from either of the axes, so it was placed just a little wrong, because there was a hill, and they wanted to get it on top of a hill. That was the idea.

Mr. SMITH, of Iowa. To make that plain, did you and Mr. Shrady cooperate in presenting the general plan for this memorial?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH. You were to do the architectural work and he to do the work as far as sculpture was concerned?

Mr. CASEY. Yes; we worked it together.

Mr. SMITH. You have spoken of Lafayette Square. Do you recollect that it was at one time proposed to erect a statue of Lafayette immediately south of the Jackson Statue?

Mr. CASEY. I do.

Mr. SMITH. And that at that time a joint resolution of Congress was passed prohibiting the erection of any structures between the Jackson Monument and the White House?

Mr. CASEY. I have understood that was the case.

Mr. SMITH. And it is still the law?

Mr. CASEY. I have been told so.

Mr. SMITH. You recall that the original foundation for the Lafayette Statue, south of the Jackson Statue, is still in the ground there, and it had to be abandoned because of this joint resolution of Congress?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH. You are aware that there has been a great deal of talk about two plans, the Burnham plan for the improving of Washington and the original plan of L'Enfant?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH. When you say this would be a very fine site, do you mean that the entire Burnham plan has got to be carried out in order to make it a good site, or would it be a good plan if either the L'Enfant plan was carried out or if generally the garden was opened by the taking down of the fences and the walls and throwing it into an open park?

Mr. CASEY. I think the site would be very good under those circumstances. I think if it was developed only in the immediate vicinity it would be a good site. I think it would be a very much better site if the whole esplanade was opened up.

Mr. SMITH. You say that after the memorial was removed from the White House Circle to this position you made some changes and you have enumerated the putting of steps up on the east or back of the memorial?

Mr. CASEY. Yes, sir.

Mr. SMITH. Do you recall that you also cut down the length about 10 feet?

Mr. CASEY. Yes; I cut the length down 10 feet.

Mr. SMITH. When you gave the height of this memorial, did you mean the height from the curb of the street or the height from the base of the monument?

Mr. CASEY. The heights I gave were from the ground level, the ground that it stands on.

Mr. SMITH. You mean the final level of the ground?

Mr. CASEY. Yes; I do not know that they are exactly correct, but they are about that.

The CHAIRMAN. What do you mean by the immediate vicinity?

Mr. CASEY. I should say that part lying between First and Second streets; as much as that any way.

The CHAIRMAN. How far would that carry it?

Mr. SMITH. About halfway down the Botanic Garden.

NEW YORK, January 27, 1908.

DEAR SIR: Your favor of January 23 has been duly received. I wish to say, in response to your request for my views on moving large trees, that the question involves a number of considerations—the species of tree, the location in which it is found, the condition of its health and vigor, and the condition of the soil and exposure to which it is proposed to move it.

During forty years' experience I have seen a great many kinds and specimens of trees of a large size moved, and have experimented myself extensively. As the result of my experience, I would not recommend the removal of any tree over 6 inches in diameter, and in the case of trees such as oaks, tulips, etc., I would not advise to move them if they are more than 4 inches in diameter.

One of the main reasons for not moving large trees is that if they live they almost invariably fail to recover their original beauty and vigor, and, moreover, they generally diminish in vigor and beauty year by year, till they are almost sure to be stunted, more or less, by removal, and there certainly is little beauty in a stunted tree.



I have always taken an interest in moving large trees, because if it could be successfully done it would be a great advantage to landscape gardening, but, after extended consideration of examples of large-tree moving in the various parks of the United States, also England, France, and Germany, I have arrived at the conviction that it ought not to be done, and most of the experts whom I have consulted in Europe agreed with me.

Respectfully, yours,

SAML. PARSONS,

*Landscape Architect, Department of Parks.*

HON. SAMUEL W. McCALL,

*Chairman of Committee on the Library, Washington, D. C.*

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OFFICE ENGINEER COMMISSIONER,

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

*Washington, January 23, 1908.*

Col. CHARLES S. BROMWELL, U. S. Army,

*In charge of Public Buildings and Grounds.*

COLONEL: At the request of the Hon. Mr. Smith, the following statement is made: The old sewer maps indicate a sewer under the central east-and-west walk in the Botanic Garden, extending from Tiber sewer to the United States Capitol building. This sewer is 3 feet in diameter, circular section, between Tiber sewer and the west side of First street.

From the west side of First street eastward it is 1 foot and 6 inches in diameter, also of circular section. In 1899-1900 a trunk sewer 14 feet in diameter was constructed, crossing the Capitol grounds 200 feet east of and parallel with First street.

This sewer crossed the line of old sewer as indicated on the old maps, but no indication of the old sewer is found in the inspectors' report of the work.

It is my belief that the old sewer is not in service eastward from First street. If it should prove to be otherwise it would be a small job to connect it with the trunk sewer.

The only function of the old sewer is to drain the surface water of First street between Garfield statue and the Peace Monument and whatever sewage may be discharged into it within the Botanic Garden. The surface water and the sewage from the buildings in the Botanic Garden may easily be diverted from this sewer and otherwise disposed of if it is considered desirable to abandon the old sewer.

Very respectfully,

D. E. McCOMB,

*Superintendent of Sewers.*

(At 3.30 o'clock p. m. the committee adjourned.)



CONCERNING THE LOCATION OF THE GRANT MEMORIAL IN THE  
BOTANIC GARDEN IN THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

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MARCH 24, 1908.—Ordered to be printed.

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Mr. HOWARD, from the Committee on the Library, submitted the  
following

ADVERSE REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 10502 and H. J. Res. 117.]

The Committee on the Library, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 10502), introduced by Mr. Sherley, to amend the provision of the sundry civil appropriation act of June 30, 1906, making an appropriation for continuing the work of erecting the memorial to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, report the same to the House with the recommendation that it lie on the table. The committee also report to the House, with the recommendation that it lie on the table, H. J. Res. 117, introduced by Mr. Mann, which provides that the Grant Memorial be located upon the large circular or elliptical plat between the White House grounds and the Washington Monument.

The committee has considered these propositions together, because, while differing in their terms, the effect of either, if adopted, would be to change the present location of the Grant Memorial as selected by the Grant Memorial Commission. The sundry civil act for 1907 contained this provision:

That the memorial may be located in the unoccupied portion of the Botanic Garden grounds between First and Second streets as recommended by the Grant Memorial Commission.

Mr. Sherley's bill proposes to that provision this limitation:

But in making such location no historic or other tree planted in such grounds shall be removed or otherwise disturbed.

The site selected by the Commission has growing upon it several trees said to be of historic interest and others of botanical rather than historical interest; consequently, if the amendment were adopted the memorial could not occupy the selected location, and the precise question to be decided is shall the Grant memorial or the trees, historic and otherwise, occupy this particular spot. The preponderance of evidence before the committee was to the effect that the trees could be removed to some other situation without material risk of loss, and that

the memorial, because of its design and size, could not be suitably placed in any other situation in Washington that is both available and desirable; and in this view of the matter the majority of the committee resolved and do recommend that the trees standing on the memorial site be removed, at a reasonable cost, and that the memorial be erected on the site selected.

The resolution of Mr. Mann, if adopted, would fix the site of the memorial between the White House and Washington Monument. The reasons against this which controlled the majority of the committee are clearly and cogently set forth by the members of the Grant Memorial Commission and others acting for and with it in the decision of this question. The committee have, therefore, quoted the material parts of the statements of the Commission, artist, and other experts made before it during the inquiry these measures have necessitated, and commend them to the consideration of the House as giving a full history of the movement to erect a memorial to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant in Washington, the reasons for the site selected, a history of the Botanic Garden and of the planting of the Crittenden tree, the Beck tree, and others embraced in the statement of Supt. William R. Smith.

Those of the committee agreeing to the action recommended find their views admirably and succinctly stated in these resolutions adopted by the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion:

Whereas there is an effort on the part of some of the press and citizens of Washington to force the removal of the memorial to Gen. U. S. Grant from the Botanic Garden in that city; and

Whereas General Grant was a citizen of this State, a member of this commandery, and its commander during the years 1884 and 1885: Therefore

*Resolved by the New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion, That the location of the Grant memorial in the Botanic Garden in Washington meets our approval.*

*Resolved, That the location of the Grant memorial is an ideal one, at the foot of the Capitol and on the axis of the Capitol and Washington Monument, with ample grounds surrounding it. It has received the approval of the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, of various expert architects and sculptors, the sculptor and architect of the memorial, the army societies, the veterans of the civil war, the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, also of General Grant's family; and the memorial has been changed to fit the present location, which was made in 1903 and confirmed in 1906. To ask its removal at this time is uncalled for and impracticable, and we earnestly protest against it.*

*Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be furnished by the recorder of this commandery to the Grant Memorial Commission and to the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State.*

#### STATEMENT OF GEN. GRENVILLE M. DODGE, CHAIRMAN OF THE GRANT MEMORIAL COMMISSION.

General DODGE. Gentlemen, perhaps it would be better for me to state to you here the efforts that have been made to build a memorial to General Grant.

In 1895 the Society of the Army of the Tennessee, of which General Grant was formerly the commander, appointed a committee of its officers, several of whom were Members of Congress, to come to Washington and to appeal to Congress to make a proper appropriation for a proper memorial to General Grant. That committee came here and labored up to 1901. In 1901 what was known as the Hepburn bill was passed, which appropriated \$250,000 for a memorial to General Grant; and the commission named to carry it out was Secretary Root, Mr. Wetmore, and myself. That law, as Judge Smith has said, we all considered as adequate. But when the question was raised as to the jurisdiction of Congress, in order to be in accord with Congress and do nothing that would not meet their approval, we simply asked that that amendment be passed. But we do not consider and did not consider that the location of the memorial down here was made under that amendment. It was made under the original act.



Our first work under this act authorizing the memorial was to obtain the models. In asking for models we selected ourselves two places. One was the north point of what is known as the "White circle," the north end of it; and the other was the square south of the State Department. We did that because the sculptors, in presenting their models, wanted to make models that would fit the ground where they were to go. The model which was accepted, which I think is one of the finest that has ever been produced, had, before it was accepted, the judgment of St. Gaudens, Mr. Daniel G. French, Mr. Burnham, Mr. McKim, General Schofield, and Mr. Meredith; and they were unanimous in accepting it. That model was made to fit the north end of the White House lot. It is 254 feet long and 69 or 70 feet wide, and of course requires a great deal of space about it.

After the model was accepted there was a great deal of opposition to our going into the White House lot. The President and some of the members of the Cabinet and others thought that that lot should not be disturbed. They claimed that it broke the view from the White House to the Washington Monument. And in response to those protests we made up our minds that if we could find a place in Washington that was suitable for the purpose we would go to it. The commission for two years looked at every square and every place in Washington, and we finally located in the Botanic Garden here in 1903, and made up our minds that that was the only ground that had the space and that was proper for a memorial to Grant. We considered that the memorial to such a person as General Grant should be somewhere in connection with the White House and the Washington Monument or with the Capitol and the Washington Monument—on the axis of two of those buildings. We did not think it was proper to put it out in the city here in any confined square. Therefore we located in the Botanic Garden in 1903, and remained there, looking at other places as from time to time they would be proposed to us. For instance, when they got the Union Station here some persons came to us and suggested that we place Grant in the plaza in front of that station, and the commission went there and viewed that site. We found that that was under the District Commissioners and the District Commissioners had other views in the matter and of course would not let us go there. When Secretary Taft became a member of the commission the question of this location came up again, and we considered it, and it was concluded that this was the only place that was suitable in Washington to place a memorial to General Grant.

In the spring of 1906, when it was coming near the time that we should commence work, or consider it, we had the outline of the memorial staked out there; and it has been staked out there for two years. We never have had any protest or any communication of any kind in relation to it. The location was accepted generally by everyone, and a great many persons consider it the best. All the sculptors and architects of the country that have seen it have said that it was a fine location and a proper location.

When work was commenced in the Botanic Gardens this fall, Secretary Taft was in the Philippines and I was out West; and I received a communication from the War Department to the effect that there were protests being made on account of the three historical trees. That is the first that any of us ever heard of those trees. We knew nothing about them. Nobody had ever said a word to us about them, although we had had staked out there in the grounds the outline of this memorial. And after receiving this protest, and not being able to be here, I sent a telegram to Lieutenant Poole, who had charge of the work in the absence of Colonel Bromwell, directing him to suspend the work until I could return.

When the time came to make the actual location in the grounds, Colonel Bromwell, who had charge of it, and who had already made the location, suggested to the commission that we have some experts to advise him as to the exact location and as to the fitting of the model to the location. At his suggestion, Frederick Law Olmstead, jr., of Massachusetts; Mr. McKim, of New York; Mr. Shrady, the sculptor; Mr. Casey, the architect, and himself were designated. They made the location almost exactly where Colonel Bromwell had originally made it. They having made the location, and knowing all about it, I, at the suggestion of the Assistant Secretary of War, asked those gentlemen to meet me here on the 12th day of November to go and see what we could do to change the monument or to save the trees.

Several of the gentlemen who were present at that meeting had had a great deal of experience in the moving of trees; and it was the unanimous decision of the commission that there was no difficulty in moving these three trees and saving them. And upon that the commission advised unanimously that the monument be retained where it was and that the three trees should be moved.

Since that time the commission has investigated this matter of moving the trees and has gotten all the information there is. We have with us here to-day a gentleman who has been in the business for thirty years, who has been here and seen these trees, and has successfully moved trees equally as large. The commission

desires, before you make any decision, that you will hear him. He has photographs and other data to show you, and he stands, I think, at the head of that work in this country.

Even up to to-day we have never had any communications—I do not think we have had a single communication—asking that this monument should be removed, but we have had a great many letters and have had resolutions from a great many societies protesting against it. I will simply read you some of them to show what sort of communications the commission has received.

Secretary TAFT. That is, General, against the change?

General DODGE. Against any change of the monument. We have had a few (two or three or three or four) communications in relation to saving the trees, but none that advise a change in the location of the monument.

Among these resolutions is one embodying the action of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee. All of the members of that society have been here and have seen this location. All of the members of the Societies of the Armies of the Potomac and the Cumberland have been here at times and seen this location; and I think the veterans of the civil war generally are greatly pleased with the location. There is no question but what General Grant's family are very much opposed to any change. There have been sent to the commission the resolutions of the Illinois Commandery of the Loyal Legion. General Grant went into the service from that State. There is the letter of the sculptors in New York in relation to the location being a proper one. There are the resolutions of the New York Commandery of the Loyal Legion, of which General Grant was a member. There are also resolutions of the society of sculptors or architects here in this city, and of the Architectural Club.

Now, our monument has progressed. We have a good many of the models of the parts of it. We have commenced work down here. Mr. Shrady and Mr. Casey have gone to a good deal of expense; they have gotten their material down here for the foundation. And I want to say to the Library Committee that the commission has no doubt whatever that it can remove these trees and save them. There is only one tree, the large oak tree, that there would be any difficulty about, if there is with that, because the other two, the Beck tree and the Shepherd tree, are small elms—such trees as are moved around in the parks and everywhere almost every day in the winter. I have seen a great many of them moved; and Mr. Hicks, the gentleman who is here, has moved hundreds of these trees. I am told—I have not seen the gentleman myself, but the gardener of these grounds states that the trees that were moved here when the Capitol was built, and that Mr. Richard Olmsted (the old gentleman) reported on, are still alive.

Mr. WILLIAM R. SMITH. Oh, no; no.

(Mr. William R. Smith entered the committee room while General Dodge was speaking, and left at the time that the change was made to the room of the Committee on the Territories.)

General DODGE. At any rate, they were alive when he reported on them at that time, in 1884, and out of the hundred and odd trees that were moved, a list of which you can find here in the report of the Superintendent of the Capitol grounds (or I can leave it with you), that report being made ten or twelve years after those trees were moved, there are only two of the trees that were lost then, and he said they were poor trees when they were moved.

I think myself (and I have had some considerable experience in it) that the saving of a tree is simply in the method of moving it. I know some places where they move trees and save them, and other places where they do not. It simply depends upon the method they use in moving the trees. I think that we can move these trees and save them. Certainly we do not want to disturb a historical tree where we can save it; but it does seem to me that a great monument to Grant down here is a greater memorial to peace than even a very valuable tree.

Mr. THOMAS. General, do you mean to say that these persons who have made protests against a change from this spot are wedded to that particular spot and no other in the Botanic Garden?

General DODGE. Yes; they do not think there is any other place in the Botanic Garden that is suitable. We have looked that question over, with a view to placing the memorial in the Botanic Garden and have it in accord with the Capitol grounds and in accord with the condition when that becomes an open square, which it some day will.

Mr. THOMAS. When the fence is taken down?

General DODGE. When the fence is taken down. It is placed so that when Second street goes through it will be in that square.

Now, gentlemen, you must understand one thing. In locating a memorial of this size, 254 feet one way and 70 feet the other way, you must have sufficient ground

around it for its approaches, for its setting, and everything of that kind. All that requires at least, I should say, 500 feet on its long axis and 300 feet on its shorter axis.

Mr. THOMAS. I understand no work has been done at all. The ground has not been broken, has it?

General DODGE. Oh, yes. We have spent considerable money there in installing the foundations, but stopped as soon as I received these dispatches in relation to these trees. I could not come here at the time. I was in the West; and I therefore, at the suggestion of the Secretary of War, immediately asked the department of public buildings and grounds to defer any further action on it until we could come here. We have done nothing on the ground, because we have waited for whatever action Congress might see fit to take.

Mr. HOWARD. General, how does the location of this monument harmonize with the generally accepted plan for the improvement of that part of Washington?

General DODGE. When we located it in the Botanic Garden we placed this so that it would be in accord with that plan. That is, the location of the monument itself in the garden was placed so that if that plan was ever carried out it would be in accord with it.

Mr. HOWARD. Is it now in harmony with the construction, say, of the new National Museum, down on the right-hand side of an axis from the Capitol to the Monument?

General DODGE. Yes, sir.

Mr. HOWARD. And the new Agricultural Department building, over on the left-hand side?

General DODGE. Yes, sir; it is.

Mr. HOWARD. And other proposed improvements along in that section?

General DODGE. Yes, sir; it is.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. WILLIAM H. TAFT, SECRETARY OF WAR.

Secretary TAFT. Mr. Chairman and gentlemen of the committee: I fear that in coming in at this late hour I may lack a knowledge of some of the details with respect to the question which has arisen.

The committees on the erection of most monuments in Washington, under the plan adopted by Congress, are changeable committees in their personnel, for they include, usually, the chairman of the House Committee on the Library, the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Library, the Secretary of War, and sometimes a representative of the committee of the army society that is interested in erecting the monument. But generally the Secretary of War is on every committee of this kind, and therefore I am able to speak with some degree of confidence on the difficulty of selecting sites.

Immediately that there is an objection made to one site, the argument is advanced: "There are lots of sites in Washington where a monument can be erected." I wish first to enter a denial that there are lots of sites for any such monument. We now have, I should think, in the War Department some eight or ten committees, of which I have the honor to be a member, that are engaged in hunting sites; and it is the most difficult thing that I know of to find an appropriate site for a monument. The number of sites that are suitable for the Grant monument is a most limited one.

This site was selected before I came on the committee. It was selected by General Dodge, Secretary Root, and, I think, your predecessor, Mr. Chairman, and probably Senator Wetmore. The site first selected, as General Dodge says, was on the axis between the White House and the Monument; and it was changed because it interfered with that beautiful vista between the back of the White House and the Monument, leading down to the Potomac River. This location was taken up and adopted—I am not quite sure as to what moved General Dodge to it, but I know it moved Secretary Root—because it fitted in so well with the proposed improvement of Washington. Now I know I am stepping on dangerous ground in mentioning that Senate plan, but I have not any hesitation in saying that, so far as the War Department is concerned and so far as the head of that Department is concerned, the control that by law is given to the Secretary of War with reference to the public grounds—everything that the engineers do is done with reference to that plan.

The CHAIRMAN. I doubt, Mr. Secretary, if you put yourself in an danger as far as the committee is concerned.

Secretary TAFT. Therefore when we came to determine on the details of the monument, after it had been changed from the White Lot to this place, the committee of architects which was appointed advised certain changes in the monument in order that it should not prove an obstacle to the vista between the Capitol and the Monument, in order that both sides should be adjusted to the position that it occupied with respect to the Monument.



The question has been asked whether trees would have to be cut down if this monument is put there. The gentleman from North Carolina asked that question. The putting of the monument there will disturb only a certain number of trees, as I understand it. But if this plan is carried out, and if this monument is made part of the general plan, then, of course, trees will have to be removed.

Now, I yield to no one in my feeling with respect to a tree. I feel as if cutting down a tree were like taking away a life. But, gentlemen, the question is whether we are to be bound by the place at which any man puts a tree with respect to subsequent improvements. I do not think the question can be met by a general maxim that we ought not to move any trees. We must move some trees. We believe, from the expert opinions we have had, that these trees can be moved; and doubtless in the construction of the Mall other trees will have to be moved. We will have to make an avenue through there, and you can not have a tree standing in the middle of a road; and if you wish at any time a correct plan with a straight communication between the Capitol and the Monument, and there are trees in the way, those trees will have to come out. And therefore, to say that you can not move a tree is to say that you can not advance.

On the other hand, we give every consideration in the monument committee to the saving of trees. We have done so with respect to Lafayette Park. There are some fine trees there that it has been proposed to move in order to put monuments at the corner; and we have refused to do that because of a beautiful elm tree that stands just opposite the Cosmos Club.

These trees are said to be historic. I do not deny that in a sense they are historic; but they were not put there by direction of Congress, and they do not themselves evidence the happening of any event at the place. They are not like the tree of Appomattox. They do not evidence anything, except that by an arrangement between the Senator from Kentucky and the gentleman who had control of this tree happened to be planted there at that time in memory of something. But, gentlemen, it is not evidenced by any historical record that I know of. It rests, doubtless, in the memory of man; but it is not like a monument that evidences something authorized by the public law, as this memorial does.

Therefore it seems to me, as between the two, that the one ought to yield to the other, reconciling them as far as possible. And as we believe that we can move those trees without injuring them, I respectfully suggest that this act be not passed.

(At this point, owing to the damp condition of the walls of the committee room, the hearing was adjourned to the room of the Committee on Territories, in the same building.)

#### STATEMENT OF COL. CHARLES S. BROMWELL, U. S. ARMY.

Colonel BROMWELL. The law authorized the location of this monument in the Botanic Garden between First and Second streets. After that law had been passed I wrote a letter to the Secretary suggesting that the sculptor and architect of the monument, as well as an architect and landscape gardener of reputation, be associated with me in determining the exact location of the monument. The five of us had a number of meetings, and after consideration we decided upon this location. It is a point, as I say, on the axis between the Capitol and the Monument, midway between First and Second streets when extended. Second street does not now pass through the Botanic Garden.

We took into consideration the so-called Burnham plan, which has been approved by the Senate, but has never been approved by the House. This monument is located so that it exactly fits in with that plan. It was not our part to consider whether or not the Burnham plan was a good plan, and we did not take that into consideration.

The CHAIRMAN. But you tried not to have the location of the monument incongruous with that?

Colonel BROMWELL. Yes. We felt that if that plan ever should be adopted it would be a great mistake to have the monument in a location not in conformity with the plan. Our location, however, is perfectly satisfactory, and we consider it a very desirable location, whether or not the Burnham plan ever is approved. The Burnham plan can be cut out entirely and our location of the monument will not be affected. We consider it to be the best location for the monument now.

If the Burnham plan is carried out it will necessitate the removal of a great many trees through the Mall. It is proposed, as you know, to have a roadway extending practically from First street to the Washington Monument. We did not consider that it was necessary for us to do anything at all with the trees around the monument at the present time, because it is not necessary to do anything until the Burnham plan is adopted; and when it is adopted the trees in the vicinity of the monu-



ment will be a very small portion of the trees that will be affected. Our idea was that, locating it there, that portion of the Botanic Garden might very properly be thrown open as a public park. The law already provides that the fence around the Botanic Garden shall be removed, and the trees and shrubs, and everything left there; and it will then simply be like any other park.

As far as moving the trees is concerned, I think there is no question that the chances are that they can be moved, provided you are going to pay enough money for it. It is simply a question of how much money you want to pay to try to move a tree.

The CHAIRMAN. Colonel, did you ever have any experience in moving trees? Colonel BROMWELL. No, sir; but I have looked into this matter very carefully; and if you take sufficient precautions, all of which are measured in a money value, you can increase very much the chances of successfully moving trees of the size of these. If you adopt the ordinary way of simply cutting a trench 4 or 5 feet from the tree, and cutting off all the branches that interfere, and, moving it in that way, you can well understand that the chances are very much against a successful moving. If you remove the earth 10, 15, or 20 feet from the trunk, and carefully gather up all the roots, and protect them, and move them, the chances of success in moving the tree are very largely increased.

#### STATEMENT OF HON. ELIHU ROOT, SECRETARY OF STATE.

The CHAIRMAN. Gentlemen, the hearing was called at this hour because it was convenient for Secretary Root to be here, and we will be very glad to hear him. You may not know the course the hearing has taken, Mr. Secretary. It is perhaps a little wider than the bill upon which we are holding the hearing calls for. Any observation that occurs to you with reference to the Grant memorial the committee will be glad to hear.

Secretary Root. I am very much obliged to the committee for considering my convenience. I am glad to have an opportunity to say something about the location of the memorial, because I have noticed some misstatements—statements indicating a misunderstanding about it—in some of the newspapers. The commission created by Congress to secure a design and select a site and to erect a memorial was composed of the Secretary of War, the chairman of the Senate Committee on the Library, I think—

The CHAIRMAN. Senator Wetmore.

Secretary Root (continuing). Senator Wetmore and General Dodge, I think, as president of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee. At that time I happened to be Secretary of War, and so was a member of the commission. We met and organized and proceeded to the discharge of the duty that was imposed upon us by Congress. We took up the subject, I think, with especial interest, because General Dodge and I had been associated with General Porter in the building of the Grant memorial in New York. We were the two vice-presidents of that association, and had taken an active part in the entire enterprise, and had been very deeply interested in it as personal friends of General Grant and of his family. When General Porter went to Paris as ambassador, the monument and its management, with the direction of the association, were left to General Dodge and myself as vice-presidents, so that we were already in the business and we took up the work of the statutory commission *con amore*.

The CHAIRMAN. As qualified experts, also.

Secretary Root. So far as a great deal of attention to the subject would qualify us. Our work was not at all perfunctory; it went rather beyond the ordinary interest of the performance of a statutory duty. We had a competition for design, got some gentlemen to help us to select a design, and canvassed the subject of site very fully. We first thought of the site immediately south of the State, War, and Navy building, and we thought of a site on the White Lot south of the White House, but we were not fully satisfied with either of those, and went all over Washington and looked at every place we could think of, and we discussed every place that we looked at, until finally we came to the conclusion that the monument, or the memorial, as I think the statute calls it, ought to have a definite relation to the public buildings of Washington, and we settled upon a site directly in front of the Capitol as being the best possible site. We considered that we were authorized by the statute to select that site because, although it was within the fence which surrounds the Botanic Garden—the grounds of the Botanic Garden—it was unoccupied. So we selected that by a formal resolution. We also selected the design and made the contract with the architect and the sculptor for a memorial which, in our judgment, was adapted to that site. That was the position in which the matter was left when

I retired from the War Department, and my knowledge of the matter ceased. However, I still kept a warm interest in it.

In selecting that site, we had a good many things in view. We considered that the statute, which made an appropriation of \$250,000 for a memorial to General Grant, meant something more than the ordinary statue which, as Secretary of War, I have been engaged in putting up around the city as a member of similar commissions. We felt that it was the intention of Congress, plainly exhibited by the difference between that statute and the ordinary monument appropriations, to indicate a distinction, and that it was our duty to secure a design and to select a site which would be distinguished, and which would put the memorial to General Grant on a different footing from the memorials to many generals and public men of inferior place in history. We considered also the fact that indications were many that the region about the Capitol was about to receive attention and to be rescued from the somewhat unkempt and uncultivated condition in which it had remained for so many years.

The CHAIRMAN. You are not thinking of the statue of Washington east of the Capitol, the seminude statue?

Secretary Root. No. The new Library had already been built, and the plans for the new buildings for both Houses of Congress had been talked of, and it had gone to such a point that those buildings were evidently to be put up, this building that we are in now, and the Senate building. The plan for the removal of the Pennsylvania Railroad from the Mall and the putting up of this great station immediately north of the Capitol had been far advanced, and it was quite evident that the movement of the improving tendency was toward this particular site, and that the neighborhood of the Capitol was, within a very short time, to be made worthy of the Capitol itself. So we considered that a great memorial to General Grant would be a fitting part of the bringing up of the surroundings of the Capitol to a point worthy of the Capitol building. We considered that that immediate prospect made it all the more appropriate that we should select that site.

We considered the plan which had already been made public, of the so-called park commission, with regard to the beautification of Washington, and we considered what effect upon our judgment the doubts as to whether that plan would be followed or not ought to have. We came to the conclusion that, while the site of the memorial which we determined upon fitted perfectly into the plan if carried out, that, whether it was carried out or not, this was incomparably the best site there was in Washington for the memorial.

The CHAIRMAN. It did not depend upon the carrying out of the Burnham plan?

Secretary Root. Not at all. I think the carrying out of the Burnham plan would probably improve the site, but we were clear that, whether it was carried out or not, it was altogether the best site that could be found, and so we performed the duty that was imposed upon us by Congress and finished our work in that respect.

We made a contract, as I think I have said, with the architect and the sculptor, under which they have gone on with their work until, I understand, they are now ready to put the work on the ground. It has now been five years since the design was selected and the site was selected. Not speaking now as a member of the commission, for I have ceased to be a member of the commission, but speaking as a citizen interested in the memorial to General Grant and as a citizen who has been happy to count himself among the personal friends of General Grant, I wish to express a very sincere and earnest hope that the work of erecting this memorial to him shall not be interfered with; that the work that has been done, which has taken so many years, shall not be destroyed; and that the whole effort shall not have to be made over again, for a large part of the money that was appropriated by Congress will have to be expended under the contract that has been made. The design that was selected is adapted to a low, level site, and it is intended to be so that it will not come in competition with lofty buildings; it is not, itself, to be a lofty memorial.

The CHAIRMAN. It is not assertive.

Secretary Root. No; it is not assertive. It is intended to be put in juxtaposition to some of the public buildings of Washington, and not to compete with them.

I think there ought to be a memorial to Grant, and I think it ought to be put up by his old friends and followers and comrades who are still alive, and I hope that the work will be allowed to go on in accordance with the decision reached under the authority of Congress and in the performance of the duty that was imposed upon the officers named by Congress. I do not think of anything else, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Does anyone desire to ask the Secretary any questions?

Mr. CONNER. Were you a member of the commission when the contract was let?

Secretary Root. I was.

STATEMENT OF MR. WILLIAM R. SMITH, SUPERINTENDENT NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Smith, the committee desire to hear you upon this question of the location of the Grant memorial, and especially they wish to ask you certain questions about the Botanic Garden.

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. Your name is W. R. Smith?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. You are the Superintendent of the Botanic Garden?

Mr. SMITH. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. How long have you been connected with the gardens?

Mr. SMITH. Fifty-five years.

The CHAIRMAN. You may go on and tell us anything that occurs to you in regard to the location of the Grant memorial and the trees that are immediately affected by it.

Mr. SMITH. Well, forty years ago or more, when the war was beginning and begun in fact, I was very anxious for peace and was very much infused with the idea of Mr. Crittenden's being successful, his resolution being passed, and in walking up toward the Capitol with John A. Bingham on the one hand, chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, and Mr. Gartell, of Georgia, a particular friend of Mr. Stevens, I said, "Why can't I be the agent for bringing you two extremists together?" Mr. Gartell said, "Mr. Smith, if your friend Bingham will withdraw his force bill and pass the Crittenden resolution, I will guarantee that Georgia does not go out." Well, turning to Bingham with all the enthusiasm of my nature, at that time especially, I said, "Now, John, now is the time for you to immortalize yourself." He said, "Well, I will see about this business." And he came up and got into the storm center and came back to tell me next day that it was no use, that no one man could control anything about it. That incident induced me to ask Mr. Crittenden and Mr. Mallory, his colleague and friend, Mr. Wadsworth, of the Committee on the Library—and they were all intimate friends—to bring from Kentucky one of the largest acorns they could find, and we would plant it where this conversation took place, in memory of his efforts for peace, even if they failed. It was planted; it has grown; it is a magnificent tree, and there are children of it over the four quarters of the Republic, and many of them in European countries. Three hundred of them are on the battlefield of Chickamauga, planted there by General Boynton, one of the bravest, grandest men of this Republic. Hence my ardent anxiety to save the Crittenden Peace Oak. If it is not destroyed, it may occupy the position as a peace agent two or three hundred years.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you remember when this was planted?

Mr. SMITH. I do not recollect the exact date, but it was the year before Mr. Crittenden's death. It can be easily verified. Another one, planted by Mr. Howard, of Michigan, is a still handsomer tree; of a different kind, however. It is a scarlet oak, and that is one of the trees that will be destroyed by the destruction, to say nothing of 40 or 50 other trees, the two Morrills, both planted by Justin S. Morrill on that line. The Secretary of War very honestly stated that these were all to be swept away if this plan was adopted. These are trees that have been there, the two Morrills, and I might name 40 or 50 others.

The CHAIRMAN. Did you make a record of these trees; was there any record that you kept?

Mr. SMITH. I have a record of it.

The CHAIRMAN. That would designate them.

Mr. SMITH. I have not put the names on them for a peculiar reason. They would be pulled to death. Sentimentalism goes too far very often, and the people take leaves. There were one or two trees with the names on them that people wanted a leaf—wanted a piece of it—so I have not named them, as I will now if they are allowed to remain. Mr. Beck's tree, adjoining Mr. Crittenden's tree, is an elm that was grown here. When Mr. Olmsted was erecting the architectural terrace that had to be destroyed, there was considerable sentiment about it. George Washington was said to have planted it, and I received the thanks of Mr. Olmsted for taking the roots and potting them, and one of them was planted for Mr. Beck and another planted for Mr. Alexander Shepherd. There was one of them Mr. Forney took to the public works of Philadelphia. Mr. Sargent, Senator from California, took one or two to California. Of course I do not know what became of these, but the sentiment exists with reference to trees in the minds of most scholarly people on the face of the globe.

Now, I will speak about removing the Crittenden oak. No sensible man, going to the spot, would contend for a minute that such a thing could be done. I was astonished at Mr. Dodge assuming to suggest such a thing. Go there yourself and you



will see that it is simply a nonsensical statement. With reference to some of the other trees, there are several of them of which Mr. Forney and Mr. Forrest, the great tragedian, and an honor to America, brought me the seed, and I laid them in a flower pot and now they are nearly 50 or 60 feet high, standing there now as sentinels, telling their stories, leading people to think. My great countryman, Andrew Carnegie, is the chief agent of this peace question, but that tree will do more, if left alone, than all the publications he ever made, because it sets people to thinking. There is an object lesson; can you get a better one? It came from Washington—that is a grand thought. It is a magnificent specimen of the vegetable kingdom and leads people to think about higher objects, if you please. I am prepared to answer any questions.

THE CHAIRMAN. Now, Mr. Smith, when, if you know, was that garden established?

MR. SMITH. George Washington selected it as a botanic garden, as a part of the college scheme that he had, as readers of history know, and in 1822 an effort was made to make a garden of it, and a collection of rare trees—native trees—was planted about the very spot where it is proposed to put General Grant's monument. That was in 1822. It has been known as the Botanic Garden since before the Government moved to this town, and I hear a good deal about L'Enfant—the L'Enfant business. The beginning of his scheme was on Third street, where he wanted a grand fountain or a monument, or something else, and a straight walk leading through to the Presidential gardens. Instead of that they borrowed money, and instead of the straight walk they put a canal where people could probably indulge in the poetry of Venice and beautiful gondolas and all that sort of thing. Solitary and alone I put the ball in motion to fill up that canal; got a number of Members of Congress from Nashville to offer the resolution to fill up the canal and make a sewer at one end of it and a basin at the other, putting Andrew Jackson's remark to the old Mr. Blair that he did not want such a dirty, stinking ditch in the middle of the town when God Almighty had made such a beautiful waterway.



## VIEWS OF THE MINORITY.

I recognize the strength of the position of my colleagues and the very great practical difficulty which exists in the way of changing the location of the Grant Memorial. But with the duty imposed upon me, by the bills referred to the committee, to consider carefully the whole question, I do not see my way clear to approve of the site which has been selected.

The invitation of the Memorial Commission to artists for the submission of designs contemplated a work to be erected to the south of the White House. The particular design which was selected was prepared for the so-called "White Lot," which is a large and level field lying between the White House and the Washington Monument. Mr. Casey, the architect of the memorial, said that he designed it for an open field or parade ground, where it could be used as a reviewing stand. It is probably due to that fact and to the ample sweep of the site the architect had in mind that the design was for a memorial of such enormous proportions, extending in length for more than 250 feet, 70 feet in breadth, and covering an area of about 17,000 square feet.

A strenuous objection was made to having the structure put between the White House and the Washington Monument and the consideration of that site was given up. The Commission thus had upon their hands, with the necessity for discovering a site for it, probably the longest, if not the greatest, work of art in the world. There is not room in every public square for a work of such portentous longitude.

It was not wanted in the vicinity of the White House. It was next proposed to place it in the plaza to the south of the new railroad station, but the architect of the station seems to have objected to having it there. There is quite too strong a tendency on the part of works of art of doubtful or unusual character, or undesirable for some other reason, to gravitate in the direction of the Capitol. Apparently in obedience to this tendency it found its way to the Botanical Garden. The necessity imposed by the enormous size of the work, well adapted to the location for which it was first designed, is in my opinion the chief justification for the selection of the present site rather than any special fitness that that site possesses for a memorial to General Grant. It is almost the lowest land in the District of Columbia, completely overshadowed by the Capitol and Capitol Hill. It is never likely to be used as a parade ground as contemplated by the architect and, while the street upon which it is located may become an important thoroughfare in the future, it certainly is not an important thoroughfare now. The memorial is to be placed near the hothouses and the other incongruous accessories of a botanical garden.

The artists of the country, or many of them, have been led to believe that the location of the memorial upon the proposed site is in fulfillment of an important part of the so-called "Burnham plan" for the

development of Washington, but the model of the plan in the Congressional Library fails to show any such enormous structure at that place. Indeed, a work more than 250 feet long at the entrance to the proposed Mall and across the "axis" from the Capitol to the Washington Monument would require a considerable modification of this plan as shown upon the model. If it is necessary to select another site than that for which the memorial was designed, the whole subject should be reopened, so that the design and site might be exactly adapted to each other.

In my opinion, a monument to Grant should be placed upon some more commanding location, and it should be from a design much less complex in character. The memorial proposed is not in keeping with the simplicity of the character of Grant. It does not recognize in any degree his career in the Presidency during eight important years of the country's history; nor does it suggest at all his reverence for peace that we should have a complicated memorial of this character, speaking of war in every part of it. There should be some simple and majestic monument bringing him to our minds as a man, as a statesman, and as a soldier.

As to the beautiful Crittenden oak and the other trees, their preservation should not be beneath the attention of Congress. They appear to me more worthily to occupy that particular location than would the structure it is proposed to erect there. But if the memorial is not to be placed upon another site, a special appropriation, if required, should be made to transplant the trees with every care to secure their safety.

S. W. McCALL.

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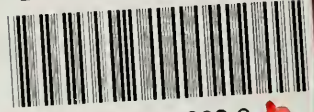








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